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# THE ATTILA OF THE GOUT.

*The Second Edition, with large Additions, both of Matter and Proofs of Cures perform'd.*

By JOHN MARTEN, *Surgeon.*

*Non Titulus, non Eloquentia, non Linguarum peritia, nec Multorum Librorum lectio in Medico conſideranda, ſed ſumma Rerum ac Myſteriorum cognitio, quæ una facile aliorum omnium vices agit.* Paracelſ.

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*LONDON*,
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# The PREFACE.

*IT is not six Months since I first publish'd a Treatise of the* Gout, *and observing some time ago that but few of the Books were left unsold, I had no reason to think that it had been unacceptable to the Publick. This put me upon a Review of it, by which I found that several things for Brevity sake had been omitted and cut short, which I thought might not only be as entertaining as any of the rest, but likewise explain and elucidate what had been writ already. For this reason I have encreas'd the Bulk of it, with a full Resolution never to add any more, how many times soever it may be reprinted.*

*The Medicine recommended in this and the former* Edition, *continues to give me every Day fresh Proofs of its being a real* Specifick *in the* Gout, *and has hitherto not once fail'd of giving the promis'd Relief where it has been duely taken. Notwithstanding all which, it wants no Opposition, and I know several, who tho' they were Eye-witnesses of the unspeakable Benefit which others receiv'd from it, have yet remain'd unreasonably scrupulous, and declin'd the taking of it themselves. Their great Argument is, that the Learned say there is no such Remedy known, and that it is impossible to give a Reason how one Medicine can have such stupendious Effects upon all Constitutions. To answer this mighty Objection,* Aristotle *furnishes us with a very remarkable Saying.* Ubi Res constat, si opinio adversetur, rei quærenda est Ratio, non res ignoranda. *'When a thing is Fact, if it thwarts a re-'ceiv'd Opinion, we must endeavour to find out a Rea-'son for it, but not disown the Thing it self.*

*But I know very well, that tho' the Efficacy of the Medicine, should as plainly appear as the Sun when it shines, does at Noon-day, as long as it brings neither Profit nor Credit to* Physicians *or* Apothecaries, *but rather the*

*contrary, it is in vain to expect that they ſhould look on tamely and not ſpeak againſt it; or that a reaſonable Number of Cures ſhould convince the World of the real Value of a new Remedy without a long continuance of Succeſs; more eſpecially in ſuch a Diſtemper as the* Gout, *the Curing of which is ſo little credited, that even the bare mentioning of doing it, is made a Jeſt of by moſt.*

*It is reported of a certain Country in* Europe, *that the politer ſort of People are generally* Atheiſts; *and the chief Reaſon alledg'd for it, is the ſtupid Bigotry of the Vulgar.* Dum vitant ſtulti vitia in contraria currunt. *'Fools (ſays* Horace) *know not how to avoid one Exceſs without running into another. As to things ſacred, there is no room I hope for ſuch Complaints amongſt us; but in other, eſpecially Phyſical, Matters, we are as apt to run into Extreams, as any* Spaniard *of 'em all. The ordinary People, and thoſe of mean Capacities in* England, *will give Ear to every nonſenſical old Womans Story, without conſulting either Reaſon or Probability, and entirely confide in the moſt impudent Promiſes of every boaſting* Quack, *tho' they are never ſo contradictory to themſelves. This exceſs of Good-nature, and eaſineſs of Faith, being deſervedly ridicul'd by all the ſenſible part of the World, the Men of Mode, and thoſe that would be valu'd for their Parts, that they may ſeem to be as remote as is poſſible from the ſtupid Simplicity of the Vulgar, are reſolv'd to admit of nothing* Right *or* Wrong, *that has not the Sanction of Univerſity Learning, and to reject the beſt Remedies in the World, if they want the aſſent of Graduate Phyſicians, tho' the Virtues of them ſhould be atteſted by a Cloud of unqueſtionable living Witneſſes.*

*If Men would lay by all Prejudice, and not judge by the ſpecious Names and fair outſide of Things, but look into the Reality, and weigh the intrinſick worth of 'em; I am perſuaded that many ſprightly People would find as juſt a Cauſe for Ridicule in their own Unbelief, which they are proud of, as there is in the ſilly Credulity of the Ignorant, which they laugh at.*

# The PREFACE.

*Those that are counted the most Candid and Learned among Physicians, have confess'd, that they knew nothing effectual in the* Gout. *All what can be inferr'd from hence is, that if Physicians know no more than the ordinary Methods which they have learn'd from their Predecessors, it is very insignificant to send for 'em in this Distemper; but it is far from proving that such a Remedy can never be found out at all, or that he who shall discover it must first have his Degree from the University.* Nulla est Gens tam Barbara (*says the learned Dr.* Ent) quæ non aut fortuito aut inevitabili quadam necessitate coacta aliquid in usum communem ad invenerit quod Nationes alias humaniores latuit. '*There is no People so Savage but that either accidentally or forc'd by some inevitable Necessity they may find* 'out *something for the common good of Mankind that* 'was *hid from other more civiliz'd Nations. What is here said of a whole People, tho' the most unpolish'd as to Invention, may with more Justice be applied to single Persons, not altogether so little qualify'd for it.*

*I have spent the greatest part of my Life in diving into the Nature of a stubborn and often deceitful Distemper, the understanding of which requires as much Judgment and Attention as any; and whoever has consulted the Works of the most able Practitioners and skilful Chymists, cannot be ignorant, that the greatest Artists in the Search after efficacious Remedies they wanted, have been often baffled in their most rational as well as industrious Attempts, when at the same time, by chance, they met with more noble ones tho' infinitely differing from those they look'd for. Then why is it impossible that I should have the same good Fortune? Nay, why is it improbable of me more than others, unexpectedly to have stumbled on a Medicine I had no reason to hope for? Considering the numerous Experiments I must in all likelihood have made both on Simples and Compounds, to suit the multifarious difficult Cases, which during a large, and (I may without boasting say) successful Practice of many Years, could*

*not but occur in the Cure of a Diſeaſe, that for Violence as well as multitude of Symptoms is inferiour to none, and in variety of Shapes exceeds all others.*

*I live (I thank God) in Credit and Affluence, and if I had not found out ſuch a Medicine, what ſhould move me by putting a ſham upon the World for a ſhort time, to expoſe my ſelf to the Ridicule and Scorn of it: The Practice I ſpoke of, and which has been very gainful to me for many Years, tho' I can live without it, decreaſes not, and would certainly encreaſe, was I to follow it with the ſame Application as formerly: And that it could not have been a trifling one, muſt be own'd even by thoſe that ſhall refuſe to judge otherwiſe than from the Event: For a Buſineſs that gives a Man an Opportunity of ſaving enough to live without it, tho' he allows himſelf and Family the elegant Comforts of Life, and keeps a Coach, as I have done almoſt theſe ſeven Years; a Buſineſs I ſay that has enabled a Man to do all this, could not either in Phyſick or Surgery be call'd inconſiderable.*

*Thoſe that boaſt of having found the* Philoſopher's Stone, *are generally Beggars as well as Cheats, and moſt Men eſteeming it as impoſſible to cure the* Gout *as to make* Gold, *many, who live far off, and are unacquainted with my Circumſtances will be apt to imagine that Indigence and a broken Fortune made me pretend to ſeeming Impoſſibilities: Which is the reaſon, that, begging the Reader's Pardon, I have troubled him with what no Man of Senſe would otherwiſe be ſo vain, or rather ſo ſilly as to mention of himſelf.*

*The Name of* Phyſician *is a Dignity I own ſuperior to that of* Surgeon, *tho' both of them profeſs but different Branches of the ſame Art; and* Surgeons *as well as* Phyſicians *have always been as they are ſtill, even by* Act of Parliament, *counted Judges of inward Medicines; and I queſtion whether we have many Phyſicians now alive, that will obtain the ſame Veneration from late Poſterity, as is, and always will be paid to the*

*Names*

*Names of* Ingraſſias, Veſalius, Fallopius, Carcanus, Aquapendens, Spigelius, Marchettis, Severinus, Paræus, Chalmetæus, Pigræus, Guilleman, Hildanus, *and others, whoſe chief Practice was Surgery. I am not ſo vain as to compare my ſelf to thoſe famous Men; I boaſt of no great Learning, but as I am well ſatisfied that many of my Profeſſion have ſucceſsfully ſtudied the Body of Man, and the Virtues of Simples, I think it unreaſonable a noble Medicine ſhould be deſpis'd, becauſe invented by a Surgeon.* A Phyſician, *ſays* Hippocrates, *in his Book* de Præceptionibus, ought not to be aſham'd to inform himſelf tho' by the meaneſt Perſon of Remedies confirm'd by Experience: *And in his Book* de Arte, *he tells us*, That tho' ſome made it their Buſineſs to decry others, and ſhew a vain Oſtentation of their own Learning, they would, in his Opinion, ſhew more Wit in finding out Things uſeful, *which is Phyſick*, and perfecting what is not yet ſo, than to lay themſelves out in ſpeculative Diſcourſes.

*The Words* Learning *and* Method, *how charmingly ſoever they may ſound, do not always cure Diſeaſes, as may be ſeen in thoſe remarkable Inſtances that are left us by* Huartius, *of two Phyſicians, of which the one was not only a Prodigy of Learning, but likewiſe endued with ſo much Eloquence, that thoſe that heard him, thought he could not only cure the Sick, but likewiſe raiſe the Dead: Yet as to his Patients, all that came near him were preſently thrown into imminent Danger, and few truſted themſelves in his Hands that did not with their own Lives expiate the vain Wiſdom of their Phyſician, inſomuch, that at laſt, he was forc'd to take Sanctuary in a Convent. The other was the great* Argenterius, *of whom very learned Authors teſtify, that in reducing the Art of Phyſick to a more perfect Method, he had exceeded even* Galen *himſelf; yet, in his Practice he was ſo unfortunate, that almoſt every Body that came under his Cure, was either kill'd out-right, or thrown*

*into some incurable Disease or other; till the Citizens where he lived were so terrify'd, that no Body was allow'd to make use of him any more. Whence 'tis plain, that* Sola Remedia sanant, *the only thing that Cures is the Remedies.*

*I could say much more upon this Subject, but having made the Head already too big for the little Body, I shall beg the Reader's Pardon for trespassing so long upon his Patience, and break off with this Confidence, that no judicious Man can think it either Honour or Honesty in Physicians, to dispise and diswade their Patients from an effectual Remedy, on which they can fix no other Disgrace, than that the Author of it has had no University Education to boast of; being well assur'd that in the Opinion of all impartial Judges, such Graduates, whilst they must own themselves uncapable of giving the least Relief in the* Gout, *will deserve the same Language, with which they of old reprov'd the haughty* Logicians; *viz.* That they were come from the University full of Pride, and void of useful Knowledge. Fili ab Academiâ venis fastum Spiras ex inani scrinio ex indocto pectore.

*From my House on the Left-hand beyond the Chapel in* Hatton-Garden, London, Aug. 20. 1713.

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CHAP.

# CHAP. I.

## *Of the various Species of the* Gout, *&c.*

AMONG all the Diſeaſes that infeſt our Humane Bodies, there is not one known hitherto, that more deſervedly is called *Opprobrium Medicorum, the Reproach of Phyſicians*, than the *Gout*.

The *Engliſh* Word which is the ſame with the *French* has its Origin from *Gutta*, (*ex defluxu guttatim facto*) a barbarous *Latin* Tranſlation of the *Greek Arthritis*, or articular Diſeaſe, which is the general Name for all the different Species of Joint-Pains; in the various Denominations of which the Learned have been as *Copious* as they have been *Defective* in writing any thing materially as to the *Cure* of them.

In the Feet, the Diſtemper is call'd *Podagra*; in the Knees, *Gonagra*; in the Hips, *Iſchiatica*; in the Hands, *Chiragra*; and in the Shoulders, *Homogra*. Theſe are the Parts moſt obnoxious to the Diſeaſe, and conſequently the Names already mention'd are every where obvious in Medical Authors. But as theſe *Arthritick* Pains, not being confin'd to their uſual Stations, have now and then, tho' rarely, remov'd the Scene of Affliction to other Places, your *Extraordinary* Phyſicians, not to be behind-hand with the Diſtemper, have ſtill vary'd the Name, according to the Difference of the Part it has affected.

In the *Vertebræ* of the Neck, it is term'd *Trachelagra*; in the Joint of the Collar-bones, *Cleiſagra*; in the *Spina Dorſi*, or Back-bone, *Rachiſagra*; in the Ankle, *Talia*, or *Talla*; and when it ſeizes the Joint

of the Jaw, it muſt be ſtiled *Siagonagra*; in the Joint of the Elbow, it is call'd *Pechiagra*; and in the Teeth, tho' there is no Articulation there, *Odontalgia* by *Strobelbergerus*, who will have the Tooth-ach to be a kind of *Gout*. Beſides the Parts I have nam'd, *Etmuller* has obſerv'd the ſame *Arthritick* Pains, in one half of the *Noſe*; as alſo in the *Sternum* which comprehends the Bones and Cartilages of the Breaſt, the only two Places I could ever meet with, where the *Gout* had not a particular Name.

When Men with ſo much Nicety, give new Names to every ſtep and motion of a Diſtemper, who would think otherwiſe, but that by long Experience in Curing of it, they had found an eſſential Difference between the ſeveral Species, and had particular Remedies ready for every one of them? Yet far from this, Phyſicians in general agree, that all the above-mention'd Species require the ſame Method of Cure; and whoever conſults the moſt noted among them, will find, that concerning the internal and immediate *Cauſe* as well as *Cure* of this Diſeaſe, nothing has been hitherto writ with any certainty; that very few have given us a better Hiſtory of it than every Patient can furniſh us with; and in ſhort, that in treating of the *Gout*, none have obſerv'd any Exactneſs but in the moſt *immaterial* Part, only fit for trifling Grammarians to meddle with.

From what I have ſaid, the Reader may perhaps imagine, that I pretend to ſome new *Syſtem*, by which the *Phænomena* of this Diſtemper will be better ſolv'd than has been done hitherto; but I am ſo far from breaking my Head with Novelties and Speculation, that I have long ago thought, that the Time and Pains, which ſo many ingenious Men have beſtow'd in defending and refuting the *Hypotheſis* already broach'd, were thrown away to very little Purpoſe; and the reaſon of my ſetting forth a

*Treatiſe*

*Treatiſe* of this Nature, is wholly *Practical*. Some time ago, I met with a Medicine, that to two or three Patients afflicted with moſt violent Pains of the *Gout*, gave immediate Eaſe. Not daring to hope for ſuch a good Fortune as all the World would eſteem the Poſſeſſion of ſuch an *Arcanum*, I at firſt aſcrib'd thoſe Succeſſes, either to Chance, or ſome unknown Accident; but ſince that, I have been convinc'd by ſo many Trials of the real worth of this excellent Medicine, that I ſhould think my ſelf injurious to the Publick, not to acquaint them with the *ſtupendious Effects* I have ſeen from it. I can eaſily foreſee the little Credit this bare Aſſertion would meet with from moſt People, if I had not undeniable Proofs, and home Inſtances of Succeſs to corroborate it with, neither am I ignorant of the great Difficulty the moſt able Phyſicians have had hitherto, in giving the leaſt Eaſe in the Diſtemper I ſpeak of. But as the ſame might have been ſaid of *Quartan Agues*, before the Uſe of the *Jeſuits Bark* was thoroughly known, ſo I ſhall give every Body leave to think what I ſay improbable, that will ſuffer himſelf to be convinc'd by Matter of Fact.

No Man, who has read the greateſt Experimental Philoſopher that ever *Europe* produc'd, I mean the Honourable *Robert Boyle*, Eſq; can doubt of the Exiſtence of *Specificks*; but before I ſay any more of them, or the Medicine I have hinted at, and which I think deſerves that Name, I ſhall briefly touch on the moſt material Things which Practitioners have ſaid of the *Gout*; relate ſome of the moſt noted Conjectures, and different Reaſonings concerning the Cauſes of it, and demonſtrate how little the beſt contriv'd *Hypotheſis*, and all the witty Speculations of the Ingenious, have hitherto contributed to the *Curative* Part of this Diſtemper, and the real Comfort of the Afflicted. And to give the Reader

a greater Inſight into the precarious Principles of Phyſicians, I ſhall premiſe ſomething concerning the Vanity of *Hypotheſes*. In the mean time I muſt deſire him from this or what I ſhall ſay hereafter, not to imagine as if I any ways ſlighted the Knowledge of *Cauſes*, or thought it unneceſſary to the removing of the Diſtempers. I have always been of Opinion that a *ſound Theory* wholly built on Obſervation, was the Foundation of a *ſafe Practice*, yet I can't help thinking, but that how long ſoever People may wrangle about the Explication of the *Eſſence* and *Phænomena* of a Diſtemper, *the true end of Phyſick is to cure it.*

## CHAP. II.

### *Of the Vanity of* Hypotheſes.

IF the All-wiſe Creator, when the Earth was yet void and without Form, would have condeſcended in his omnipotent Commands to the rude Maſs, to uſe ſuch length of Time, Method, and Language as might have been fathom'd by Mortals; or elſe had thought fit to beſtow an almoſt infinite Penetration on the Faculties of finite Beings; either his ſacred Records, or elſe the Depth of our own Sagacity, might have taught us the Principles of Things: The various Ingredients, the conſtituent Parts of what now we call Matter, would perhaps have been laid open to our View; and humane Induſtry might have hoped by Study and Application, to have unlock'd the dark Womb of Cauſes; but ſo momentary were both the Voice and the Execution of his incomprehenſible *FIAT*, that they can inſpire us with nothing but Humility and Surprize; and ſo ſhallow the reach of our

Under-

Underſtanding; that whether we are pleas'd to loſe our ſelves by launching out into Immenſity of the Univerſe, or by poring upon the Diviſibility of Matter, we meet on either ſide with a full view of the narrow Bounds that are ſet to our limited Senſes.

God, it is true has endu'd us with Reaſon, which is that Faculty of the Soul, by which ſhe is capable of drawing from ſure Premiſes, Concluſions as certain, and turning to her Advantage the many Intelligences that are continually brought to her by the outward Senſes: But as it is certain, that no Knowledge of Things material can be convey'd to the Soul any other way, ſo it is impoſſible, that our Reaſon ſhould make juſt Inferences from what is beyond the reach of thoſe Organs.

But ſuch is the Vanity of ſome witty Men, that rather than ſearch after Parable Truths, and acquieſe in the real Knowledge to be attain'd to within the limits of our Senſes, they'll leap the Bounds of Certainty, and, following the Dictates of a roving Fancy, proſtitute their Reaſon to draw Concluſions from Conjectures.

Theſe Conjectures, when they are general, and extended to the Conſtituent Parts and Motions of all created Beings, are call'd *Syſtems* of natural Philoſophy. It is not to be deny'd, but that the Contrivance of them is a Task of great Difficulty and Invention; becauſe they are to ſerve for all Uſes, and the Explication of one *Phænomenon* of Nature, muſt never contradict what our Senſes have diſcover'd of another, or claſh with any one Experiment that has been made. From whence it is evident, that thoſe who ſet about them, ought to have great Qualifications, and be Men of extraordinary Parts and *Genius*, as well as Knowledge and Learning. The Reward they receive, is generally made anſwerable to their Labour, and whoever has

but

but tollerably ſucceeded in proving the Probability of theſe Conjectures, (for none have yet been broach'd but what were defective in ſeveral Parts) has been handed down to Poſterity with as much Fame, as if he had been one of the greateſt *Generals* in the World. The Sagacious *Ariſtotle* has been as much talk'd of for deſcribing every thing upon the Earth, as his Pupil *Alexander the Great*, has been for conquering of the whole. The ſame may be ſaid of all great *Philoſophers* and *Mathematicians*, before and after him, that contriv'd *Syſtems* of their own, and the Names of *Theſeus*, *Themiſtocles*, *Camillus*, *Timoleon*, *Julius Cæſar*, *Bellizarius*, *Guſtavus Adolphus*, and *Turenne*, have not made more Noiſe in the World than thoſe of *Pythagoras*, *Plato*, *Democritus*, *Epicurus*, *Ptolomy*, *Copernicus*, *Tycho-Brahe*, and *Deſcartes*.

But what Uſe their ingenious Gueſſes have been of to Mankind, is a Queſtion not eaſily to be anſwer'd; nay, many are of Opinion, that by putting Men upon *Speculation*, they have diverted them from the Steadineſs of *Obſervation*, and conſequently done more harm than good, as to the Improvement of real Knowledge. However, as long as their Invention is only employ'd to explain the Motions of the Heavens and Stars, the Meteors of the Air, the Flux and Reflux of the Sea, the Vertues of the Loadſtone, and a thouſand other things that are without us, their *Syſtems* can do us no manner of Prejudice if there were five hundred more of them; for whether the Earth remains fix'd upon its old Foundation, and the Sun goes round about it, as it uſed to do; or that the Sun ſtands ſtill, and the Earth is whirl'd about that, with greater Celerity than Balls flie from Canons, as long as both *Hypotheſes* keep all things ſtanding as they are, no Body can ſuſtain any Damage by either. But when once theſe Gueſſes begin to be extended

extended to our Inside, and Physicians when we are Sick, to restore us, turning Philosophers, draw Conclusions from 'em as if they were real Truths, then they may do us a great deal of hurt: And if the *Hypothesis* be wrong, the Patient is in a miserable condition.

But that I may not be thought to move above my Sphere, and yet shew the little Dependance that is to be had in Physick upon these ingenious Whimsies of inventive Brains, I shall repeat what has been said of them by a very learned Man of that Profession.

'There needs, methinks, says he, no better 'Proof of the doubtfulness and uncertainty of ge- 'neral *Systems* of natural Philosophy, than the Dif- 'ference to be observ'd between them, for since 'there can be but one, either Ancient or Modern, 'that can correspond to the real Nature of Things, 'and yet every one seems to be recommended as 'true Resemblances of them; Men that will espouse 'one, that is, that will be so blindly lead to assent 'to the Truth of Fact, because so taught in such 'speculative Fictions, must, if they will but pro- 'ceed carefully, even in their own way, be plun- 'ged in some Difficulty in making their Choice by 'which to do it; by reason there being so many of 'them, and each represented as a Copy of natu- 'ral Beings, it cannot be readily determin'd which 'to confide in, when there appears so many pro- 'mising Pretences, unless they first examine their 'particular Goodnesses before they assent to either: 'And that is not to be done, but by one of these 'two ways.

'First, either by the Excellency of the Contri- 'vance of the *System*, in the Harmony, Symmetry, 'and Agreement of it in all its Parts: Or Second- 'ly, from the examining and comparing it with 'Things themselves by Experiments and Observa-

'tions,

'tions, that they may from them learn whether it 'really agrees with all ſuch natural *Phænomena*, it 'is pretended to explain.

'If Men will always judge of Diſcourſes by the 'firſt, they will be irrecoverably loſt in a Laby-'rinth of Uncertainties without either Clue or 'Thread to guide them; for there can be no *Cri-'terion* whereby to diſtinguiſh between Fact and 'Fiction, Truth and Fable; for ingenious Men 'are rarely ſo unfruitful in thought, or ſo barren 'in Invention, but that they can contrive and 'dreſs a Work with ſuch endearing Ornaments, as 'are Symmetry in its Parts, Grace and Beauty in 'its Compoſitions, without being oblig'd to Copy 'from any real Original: So that ſhould others 'pretend to try the Value of the Metal by that 'Touchſtone, they may be unhappily brought to 'acknowledge the Metamorphoſis of *Ovid* to be 'as real as the Books of *Moſes*; the Viſions of *Que-'vedo* to be as true as the Revelations of St. *John*.

'But if by the laſt, then they ſeem of no manner 'of Uſe, by reaſon then they appeal from the *Hy-'potheſis* to the Things themſelves, to learn their 'Natures, and that may be as fairly done without 'any ſuch precarious Aſſiſtance.

'Neither can they be from thence aſſur'd how 'far their beloved Opinions will correſpond to the 'Nature of other Things, until they have parti-'cularly try'd them; for Experiments being only 'made upon Particulars muſt be infinitely multi-'plied, if general Knowledge is ſought to be ob-'tain'd that way, for by ſuch, Men can ſafely con-'clude no farther than of the Nature of ſuch Bo-'dies upon which it is made. It muſt be acknow-'ledg'd ſome Contrivers of theſe airy Doctrines 'have oblig'd their Readers by bringing ſome Te-'ſtimonies from Things themſelves, to prove their 'Conjectures; but then the Numbers of ſuch Wit-

'neſſes

'neſſes are ſo Scanty in reſpect of that immenſe 'Ocean of Beings that compoſe this vaſt *Syſtem* 'that they pretend to explain, and the Choice of 'them ſo advantageouſly made, ſuch only being 'produced that can be ſmoothly explicated by 'their Principles; and their Evidence is uſually ſo 'cunningly deliver'd, that they ſeem to an impar-'tial Reaſon, rather to give an occaſion to ſu-'ſpect, than any ways to confirm their Doctrines: 'For in ſuch it may readily be diſcern'd they are 'more concern'd to find Proofs to ſupport what 'they have thus contriv'd, or taken up as true, 'than ſincerely by ſuch to enquire after Truth it 'ſelf: For indeed Men having once (whether wan-'tonly or unwarily, it matters not) eſtabliſh'd a 'firm belief of the Truth of an *Hypotheſis*, there 'ſeems not much reaſon to expect they ſhould en-'quire farther, unleſs it be that they may make it 'appear with the finer Grace or better Luſtre.

That this likewiſe has been the Opinion of many both Ancient and Modern Phyſicians concerning *Hypotheſes*, can not be doubted, if we conſider, that generally the Wiſeſt, and thoſe that have been counted the moſt honeſt among them in all Ages, have ſtuck the cloſeſt to *Experience*, and put the leaſt Confidence in thoſe *airy Speculations*. The more Ancient, among the *Greeks* eſpecially, look'd with great Indifference upon the Principles of Natural Philoſophy, whether they were true or no, and all Diſputes about it, that did not refer to Practice, they look'd upon as Curioſities going beyond their Art, and about which they would not contend. Upon this Account they generally allow'd of two ſorts of Truth, the one in Phyſick, the other in Natural Philoſophy; and that what was ſuch in one, might not be ſuch in the other. This Preſi-dent they derived from their great Maſter *Hippo-crates*, who in his Diſcourſes ſometimes proceeds

upon the Doctrine of the Four Elements, as if it were true: Sometimes he goes upon the Doctrine of *Atomes*, as if he regulated his Cures thereby: Sometimes he ſeems to favour the Tenets of the Chymiſts, and cries out as Mr. *Boyle* and other Chymiſts cite him, *Non Calidum, non frigidum, humidum, ſiccum eſſe quod maximam vim agendi habet in corpore verum amarum & ſalſum, & dulce & acidum*, &c. Sometimes he proceeds as it were upon the Principles of the old Methodiſts, and aſcribes the origin of Diſeaſes, to the altering of the Texture of the Body, to the different Conformation of Parts, the different Configuration of Pores, *&c.* This was the Courſe this great Man took; he was willing to obſerve in all Diſeaſes the Motions and Courſe of Nature, and never troubled his Head with regulating his Practice by the Concluſions of any one *Hypotheſis*.

Dr. *Bathurſt*, when he ſaw Students of Phyſick lay great Streſs upon Speculation and Theory, uſed to tell them. *Nunquam ille Medicus magnus erit, quiſquis patitur ſe principiis Philoſophicis alligari atque conſtringi.* It is impoſſible for any Perſon to be a great Phyſician, who ties up himſelf to one ſort of Natural Philoſophy, as if it was really true and certain; which is confirm'd by daily Experience; for we ſeldom ſee that thoſe who excel in witty Speculations are ever happy Practitioners. Dr. *Baglivi*, Phyſician to the preſent *Pope*, ſhews the great Danger there is in drawing Concluſions from the Analogy and Similitude we conceive between the Operations within us, and thoſe that are without us. There is a vaſt difference between Things inanimate and living Creatures; and the Operation of Medicines as the learned Dr. *Stubbs* ſays very well, is oftentimes ſuch as anſwers not the Principles of any Philoſophy; and the Digeſtions of Nature are ſo different from thoſe of Chymiſtry, her

Fires,

Fires, her Solvents, her Filters, her Furnaces and Veſſels, her Mixtures and degrees of Heat ſo diſcrepant, that there is no arguing from the one to the other.

*Celſus*, who has been ſtiled *Hippocrates Latinorum*, has a very witty Paſſage upon theſe Speculative and Reaſoning Phyſicians. *Requirere etiam* (ſays he) *ratio idem doceat quod experientia an aliud? Si idem ſupervacuam eſſe, ſi aliud etiam contrarium.* He wanted to know whether *Reaſon* taught the ſame which *Experience* did, or ſomething elſe: If the ſame, ſays he, then it is ſuperfluous, and if ſomething elſe, then it may as well teach the quite contrary: And in another Place, where having ſpoken of the Darkneſs of the Cauſes of Things, and the uncertainty of the *Theorems* in Phyſick; he ſays, *Ac nihil iſtas cogitationes ad medicinam pertinere eo quoque diſci, quod qui diverſa de his ſenſerint ad eandem tamen ſanitatem homines perduxerint id enim feciſſe, quia non ab obſcuris cauſis neque a naturalibus actionibus, quæ apud eos diverſæ erant ſed ab experimentis prout cuique reſpondeant, medendi vias traxerint, ne inter initia quidem ab iſtis quæſtionibus deductam eſſe medicinam ſed ab experimentis.* That theſe Speculations, ſays he, do not belong to the Art of Phyſick, may ever be learn'd from hence, that thoſe who had different Opinions about them, have equally reſtor'd their Patients to Health; a certain ſign, that they did not derive their Method of Cure from the Cauſes which were obſcure, nor the Operations of Nature about which they differ'd, but *Experiments*, as they were correſpondent to every ones Opinion: And certainly the medical Art owes its origin not to thoſe Diſputations, but *Experiments*.

Either theſe great Men knew nothing of the matter, or elſe ſome of our Phyſicians are in the wrong to ſuggeſt, that unleſs a Man has one Philoſophical *Hypotheſis*, by which he wholly directs his Pra-

ctice, he ought not to be entruſted with the Adminiſtration of inward Medicines; but if we muſt have an *Hypotheſis*, which of them ſhall we chuſe, or what Phyſicians adviſe ſhall we ask about it? Or rather let the Dead inform us; ſince divers (ſays Mr. *Boyle*) of the eminenteſt Methodiſts themſelves have more than once ingeniouſly acknowledg'd to me, and ſeriouſly deplor'd with me, the incompleatneſs of their Art, which perhaps made (that learned *Prince*) the late *King*, tell them, *that they were at beſt but good Gueſſers.* And ſince about divers particular Diſeaſes, we have obſerv'd the Method of ſome of the moſt reputed Phyſicians of *England*, (which yet I think, is at this Day as well ſtored with learned Men of that Profeſſion as any part of *Europe*) not only differing, but repugnant to each other; I ſuppoſe we may without diſreſpect to their Profeſſion, diſſent from the moſt of them about thoſe Caſes about which they are reduced to diſagree ſo much among themſelves.

This contrariety of *Hypotheſes* and Opinions is ſo obvious every where in the Writings, Diſcourſes, and Practice of Phyſicians, that it would be ſuperfluous to ſpend any time in proving it; however, the Reader ſhall meet with ſome notable Inſtances of it in the fourth and fifth Chapters, to which referring him, I ſhall end this with another ſaying of the ſame *Celſus* whom I mention'd before. *Neque ſe dicere conſilio medicum non egere, & irrationale animal hanc Artem poſſe præſtare, ſed has latentium rerum conjecturas ad rem non pertinere quia non interſit quid morbum faciat ſed quid tollat.* He tells us, that he did not ſay that a Phyſician had no occaſion for Prudence and Wiſdom, or that an irrational Creature was capable of exerciſing that Art, (of Phyſick) but that thoſe Conjectures of Things that were hid, were nothing to the Purpoſe, becauſe *it matter'd not what made the Diſeaſe, but what remov'd it.*

CHAP.

## CHAP. III.

### *Of the Symptoms of the* Gout.

IN giving a definition of the *Gout*, every Author has hook'd in ſomething of the *Syſtem* he follow'd. *Herman Buſſchof*, who ſuppos'd the Cauſe of the *Gout* to be a Vapour, gives this large Deſcription of it: The *Gout*, ſays he, is a preternatural, inward, deep-lurking, and for the moſt part inviſible little ſwelling within in the *Perioſteum*, that is the Membrane that enwraps all Bones, cauſed from a dry and cold Ill-natur'd Damp or Vapour, which out of the Arteries, by the expelling Vertue of the Heart is driven out into the Place that is between the Bone and the *Perioſteum*, for the moſt part into ſuch Limbs of the Body as are about the Joints: In which this Vapour being and remaining impacted and enclos'd, and diſtending that moſt ſenſible Membrane, produces thoſe violent and intollerable Pains, whereby the Motion of thoſe Limbs is incumbred and diſpoiled, and many other grievous Accidents occaſion'd. Other Phyſicians give other Definitions, yet moſt of them agree that it is a deep, diſtending, piercing, throbbing, continual, and bitter Pain the *Glanduls* next adjoining to the *Perioſteum*. It is generally divided in *Hot* and *Cold*: In the Firſt, the Skin of the Part affected is higher colour'd, and the Pain more intenſe than in the latter.

In the Hiſtory of this Diſeaſe, I ſhall follow the Candid as well as Sagacious *Sydenham*, who has ſet down the *Phænomena* of it, with greater Fidelity, and made more uſeful Obſervations in the *Gout*, than all the Phyſical World beſides. After diſtinguiſhing between the *Regular* and *Irregular* Attacks of this Diſtemper, he has obſerv'd, that the former

mer generally invade People all on a ſudden, at the latter end of *January*, or the beginning of *February*. All the Notice that the *Gout* gives 'em of its Approach, is, that ſome Weeks before, the Patients find a Crudity and Rawneſs in their Stomachs, with a windy ſort of Diſtention and Heavineſs of the Body, which Symptoms daily encreaſe, till at laſt the *Tyrant* at once appears. A few Days before, there is a Numbneſs felt, and as it were a deſcent of Wind thro' the fleſhy Part of the Thighs, with ſpaſmodick Motions; and the Day before the Fit, the Appetite is more Voracious than at other times, but not Natural; the Patient goes to Bed tollerably well, but about two Hours after Midnight he is waked with the violence of the Pain, for the moſt part affecting the great *Toe*, ſometimes the *Heel*, and at other times the *Ankle*, or the *Calf* of the *Leg*. But I muſt obſerve here, that the Symptoms happen not to all People afflicted alike, nor do they begin with many Patients at any ſet Hour of Night or Day, or time of the Year, for ſome have it in all Seaſons: Nor does it in all firſt come in the great *Toe*, for ſome who have been ſeverely troubled with it for many Years, never had it in that Part, nor yet in the Feet; but in ſome it begins firſt in one part, in others in another, and again in others in Parts different from 'em both; tho' I do not ſay, but that in the Progreſs of the Diſtemper, it may be diverted or carried to ſeveral other Parts, according as the predominant Cauſe may lead it, and when it comes ſharp, be it upon what Part it will, the Pain is like that of diſlocated Bones, and feels as if cold Water was poured upon the Membrane thereof, which is followed by ſhivering and ſhaking, and ſomething of a Fever; as the Pain encreaſes, ſo the ſhivering and ſhaking go off by Degrees; about Night the Pain is come to its height, accomodating it ſelf according

to

to the Variety of the Bones of the *Tarſus*, and *Metatarſus*, whoſe Ligaments it ſeizes, ſometimes reſembling a violent ſtretching of thoſe Ligaments, ſometimes the gnawing of a Dog, and at other times an incumbent Weight. The Part affected has moreover ſuch an exquiſite Pain, that the very Bedcloaths are inſupportable to it as well as hard treading in the Chamber; another Affliction that diſturbs the Patient, is the wearisome turning of the Part hither and thither, and it's continually changing of Place. The toſſing likewiſe of the whole Body which always attends the Fit, is as tireſome as the continual Agitation and Pain of the afflicted Member. A thouſand endeavours are uſed in changing the Poſture of the Body, and the Place whereon the Member lies to alleviate the Pain, but no Eaſe is had till two or three a Clock in the Morning of the ſecond Day, at which time the Patient is ſuddenly reliev'd by reaſon there is ſome Digeſtion and Diſcuſſion of the Peccant Matter, tho' he undeſervedly aſcribes it to that Poſition of the affected Member he uſed laſt. And now being in a breathing Sweat, he falls a-ſleep, when he wakes, he finds the Pain much abated, and the Part affected, ſwell'd. The next Day, and perhaps two or three after, if the Matter that breeds the *Gout*, is copious, the Part affected will be more in Pain again, which encreaſes towards the Evening, but abates about the time of the Cock's crowing. Within a few Days the other Foot will be in Pain as the former was, and if the former has left off aking, the Weakneſs it had, ſoon vaniſhes, and Strength is ſo immediately reſtored to it, as if it never had been out of Order, if the Pain is violent in the Foot lately ſeiz'd. Sometimes when there is ſuch an abundance of Peccant Matter, that one Foot is not able to contain it, it afflicts both together with equal Violence; but moſt commonly it ſeizes them

one

one after another as has been ſaid. After it has troubled the Feet, the Fits that follow are Irregular, both as to the Time of their Approach and Duration; yet the Pain always returns in the Evening, and abates again by Morning, and of a Series of theſe ſmall Fits, conſiſts what we call a Fit of the *Gout*, longer or ſhorter according to the Age of the Patient; for it is not to be ſuppos'd, when any one is afflicted with this Diſeaſe two or three Months, that it is one Fit, but rather a Series and Chain of many ſmall ones, whereof the latter are ſtill more gentle and ſhorter, till the Peccant Matter being wholly conſum'd, the Patient recovers his former Health, which in vigorous People, or elſe ſuch who have rarely been afflicted with the *Gout*, comes to paſs often in fourteen Days, and in thoſe that have often had it, in two Months; but in ſuch as are more weakned, either by the long continuance of the Diſeaſe, or by Age, it does not go off before the Summer. The firſt fourteen Days, the Urine is of a high Colour, which after Separation has a red Sediment, and looks as if it was full of Sand; the quantity of Urine the Patient makes, is not a third part of what he Drinks, and the Belly is moſt commonly bound the ſaid firſt Days. Want of Appetite, ſhaking of the whole Body towards Evening, heavineſs and troubleſome uneaſineſs of the Parts not affected, accompany the whole Fit; a violent itching of the Foot, afterwards attends the Fit in its going off, chiefly between the Toes, and the Feet Scale as if the Patient had taken Poiſon. The Diſeaſe being ſhook off, a good habit of Body and Appetite return: According to the degree of Pain ſuſtain'd in the laſt Fit, the following will in Proportion be haſtened or retarded; for if the laſt Fit was very ſevere, the following will not come till the ſame time of the Year returns again.

Theſe

Theſe are the Symptoms of the regular *Gout*, by which the Feet are only affected; they ſeeming to be the moſt genuine Seat of the Morbifick Matter, as the Word *Podagra*, an ailing of the Feet, which is the general Name commonly given to the Diſtemper, ſeems to intimate. But when by preposterous Methods of Cure, the Diſtemper is diſturbed in its Courſe, or by the long Continuance of it, the ſtrength of the Body much diminiſh'd, and Nature is no longer able to thruſt out the Morbifick Matter through the uſual Paſſages; it then becomes irregular, and ſometimes affects one part, ſometimes another, as the Hands, Wriſts, Arms, Knees, *&c.* It often invades one or more of the Fingers, deſtorts and makes them uſeleſs, and at length produces ſtony Concretions in the Joints of them, like unto Chalk or Crabs-Eyes, which in time in ſome People, break the Skin ſo as to fall out, and new Chalk comes in the room; and to that degree, that from the Joints of ſome *Gouty* People ſeveral Pounds of it, as it has been reported, have been taken. Sometimes it affects the Arm or Wriſt, and there cauſes a whitiſh Swelling almoſt as big as an Egg. Sometimes tho' not ſo often, it falls upon the Thigh, and cauſes a Senſe, as if a great Weight were hang'd upon the Part, but the Veſſels being large, and conſequently the Obſtruction leſs, the Pain it excites in this Part, is inconſiderable. When it attacks the Knees, it cauſes moſt exquiſite Torments, and the Patient, who can neither move nor help himſelf, is as if he was nail'd or faſten'd to the Place he lies on; yet the Pain is not ſo urgent during the whole Fit, if the Patient can but keep the Part affected quiet.

Whereas the regular *Gout* ſeldom invades People but about the latter end of *Winter*, and after having held two or three Months at fartheſt, goes off civilly, now it remains a whole Year, excepting

the two or three hot Months, and then ſcarcely a reſpite or perfect Manumiſſion; and as in this irregular *Gout*, the general Fit is longer, ſo thoſe particular Fits that compoſe it, are likewiſe more laſting, and the Patients have frequently ſharp and violent Pains for fourteen Days together without Remiſſion, attended with Sickneſs, and often a total loſs of Appetite. The Patient during the Intervals of the Fits in the regular *Gout*, enjoy'd a perfect State of Health, but in this, even at the time of the Intermiſſion, he feels a Stiffneſs and Diſorder in thoſe Joints that have been affected, and ſuch a Debilitation or Weakneſs remains in them ſometimes, that they become in a manner uſeleſs, not having ſo much Strength, if in the Hands, as to hold up a Straw, or ſnap a Hair in two, which laſts ſometimes for ſeveral Weeks or Months; and the Patient is often afflicted with unſavory Belchings, and other ſigns of Indigeſtion. When the Diſeaſe is confirm'd, it often happens upon Yawning, eſpecially in the Morning, that the Ligaments of the Bones of the *Metatarſus*, are violently pull'd, ſometimes it feels as if the ſame Bones receiv'd a Blow with a great Club, and were broken in pieces. The *Tendons* of the *Muſcles* that ſupport the Legs, are ſometimes taken with ſuch ſharp and violent Convulſions, that the Pain occaſion'd by them, if it ſhould laſt but a little while would be inſufferable. The Urine that was before high-colour'd, eſpecially in the Fits, and rendred in a ſmall quantity, is now like that voided in a *Diabetes*, both as to Colour and Quantity. After many and dreadful Torments, when Nature, being partly oppreſs'd with the Burden of the Peccant Matter, and partly by old Age, is no more able to expel the Morbifick Particles conſtantly and forcibly to the Extremities of the Body, the ſucceeding Fits begin to be leſs ſevere as to the Pains in the

Joints,

Joints, but inſtead of them a certain Sickneſs, with a pain of the Belly, ſpontaneous Wearineſs, and ſometimes a Propenſion of a Looſeneſs ſupervene. Theſe Symptoms eaſe the Pain of the Limbs when they are violent, and likewiſe vaniſh when the Pain in the Joints return; and ſometimes the Pain, and ſometimes the Sickneſs afflicting alternately, prolong the Fit very much. In theſe Fits, tho' they are more laſting, the Patient feels not a quarter of the Pain which they uſed to ſuffer when his Strength was more entire: But the more gently he is treated, the more is the Morbifick Matter tranſlated to the inward Parts, and at length he Dies, more of the Sickneſs than the Pain.

But theſe inward Afflictions of the *Gout* are not only obſerv'd in ſuch as have been long tormented, and are rendred decrepid with the *Gout*, but likewiſe in Young People, and others that have but little been troubled with it, when Nature either broke by Infirmities, or diſturb'd by prepoſterous Aids, is unable to throw off the Morbifick Matter as far as the Extremities: And in them this Diſtemper, not only produces many Diſorders in the Stomach and Guts; but likewiſe perſonates, according to the Diſpoſition of the Patient, many Diſtempers to which the *Gout* ſeems to have no manner of Affinity.

What I ſaid laſt, has hardly ever been touched upon by Phyſicians, and never particularly treated of, but by a late ingenious Author Dr. *Muſgrave* of *Exeter*, who in his Elegant *Latin* Treatiſe *de Arthritide anomala*, has furniſh'd the Learned World with many valuable Obſervations and Diſcoveries concerning the internal *Gout*.

The worthy Author I mention'd, calls no *Gout* Anomalous or Irregular, but that which leaving or paſſing by the uſual Objects of its Fury the Joints and external Parts, invades the Trunk it ſelf. The

Diſtempers which by his own Experience he has known to have been perſonated by the *Gout*, are the following, *viz.* *Indigeſtion*, *loſs* of *Appetite*, *Pain*, and many other Diſorders of the *Stomach*, the *Cholick*, *Looſeneſs*, the *Bloody-flux*, *Abſceſſes* in the *Guts*; *Melancholy*, *Syncope's* or *Faintings*; the *Stone* in the *Kidneys*, *Aſthma's*, *Catarrhs*, *Coughs* and *Peripneumony's*; the *Phtyſick*, *Quinſies*, *Head-achs* and *Vertigo's*, *Apoplexies*, *Palſies*; wandring and fixed *Pains* in the Body; *Ophthalmy's*, *St. Anthony's Fire*; *Scald-Heads*, and *Defluxions* with the *Tooth-ach*; every one of theſe Diſeaſes, whoſe various Shapes he has known the *Gout* to aſſume, he treats of at large in diſtinct Chapters; annexing to each, as ſo many practical Inſtances of what he aſſerts, one or more Hiſtories of his own Patients, in whom that particular Diſtemper has viſibly derived its origin from the *Gout*; from hence we may juſtly conclude, that the *Phænomena* of the Anomalous or irregular *Gout*, are not eaſily determin'd, and no fewer in Number then all the Symptoms of the various Diſtempers, which it is able to imitate together.

Tho' theſe Obſervations of Dr. *Muſgrave* concerning ſo many different Diſtempers occaſion'd and perſonated by the *Gout*, are (as I hinted before) entirely New, yet that the *Miaſma Arthriticum*, or the Morbifick Matter of the *Gout*, may from the Joints be remov'd to the inward Parts, has been aſſerted by many Phyſicians, not only of this and the preceding Age; as *Sydenham*, *Etmuller*, *Sylvius*, and *Sennertus*, but ſeveral of the Ancients, as *Trallianus*, *Aetius*, *Paulus Ægineta*, *Galen* himſelf, and before him *Aretæus* of *Cappadocia*, have been of the ſame Opinion.

Beſides the Symptoms already mention'd, there is another ill Conſequence that often attends the *Gout*, *viz.* the *Stone* in the Kidneys, which it breeds in a great many; either becauſe the Sick lies along

while

while upon his Back, or becauſe the Organs of Secretion have left off to perform their due Functions, or becauſe the *Stone* is made of a part of the ſame kind of Matter; but which of them is the Cauſe, Dr. *Sydenham* pretends not to determine. Whatever is the Origin of this Diſeaſe, the Patient has ſometimes many ſad Contemplations, to know whether the *Stone* or the *Gout*, is moſt ſevere; and ſometimes the *Stone* hindring the Paſſage of the Water into the Bladder thro' the Urinary Paſſages, kills him without waiting on the ſlow *Gouty* Execution. To all theſe Afflictions is likewiſe added; that during the Fit, the Patient's Mind is as it were infected with the Contagion, and ſo far ſuffers with the Body, that it is difficult to know which of them is moſt afflicted. For every Fit may as properly be call'd a Fit of *Anger*, as of the *Gout*. For the Mind and Reaſon are ſo extremely enervated by the infirm Body, that they are diſorder'd by the leaſt Motion of the Affections; ſo that he is as troubleſome to others as to himſelf: He is moreover as obnoxious to the reſt of the Paſſions, *viz.* to *Fear*, *Care*, and other of the ſame kind, by which he is alſo vexed, till the Diſeaſe going off, the Mind alſo has recover'd its former Tranquility: And after this manner the Fits are more and more protracted, as the Intermiſſions grow ſhorter, till at length, (the Bowels being ſo hurt by hatching and embracing the Peccant Matter, that the Organs of Secretion can no more perform their Duty) the Blood ſtuffed with Dregs, Stagnates, and the Patient dies.

CHAP.

## CHAP. IV.

### *Of the Cauſes of the* Gout.

AS to the firſt and remote, or Procatarctick Cauſes of the *Gout*, there has been little wrangling among the Phyſicians. The general Opinion is, that *Drunkenneſs* and *Gluttony* are the Father and Mother of this Diſtemper, and that a moiſt Air, too much Sleep, want of Exerciſe and Sloth, are neceſſary Cauſes: They likewiſe agree, that Exceſs of *Venery* has no ſmall Hand in the Production of it; only the ingenious Dr. *Baynard* is of another Opinion as to the latter; and has handſomely endeavour'd to remove that Imputation. 'How *Venery* (ſays he) ſhould be lugg'd in to be a 'Party concern'd either in the Cauſe or Quarrel, 'I can't underſtand; for among the *Turks*, *&c.* 'where they are moſtly enervated by Women, they 'have no ſuch thing as the *Gout*, Wine being by 'their Law forbidden, *&c.* ſo lay the Load upon 'the right Horſe, and ſaddle old *Bacchus*'s Back, 'as the chief Author and Contriver of this Joint-'Evil, and ask *Venus* pardon for laying a drunken 'Brat at her Door which ſhe never deſerv'd for.

*Sennertus* is of Opinion, that whereas the next and immediate Cauſe of the *Gout*, is ſomething that has as it were the nature of a Mineral, altogether unfit to nouriſh the Body; the Vine attracts it more powerfully than other Plants, 'That this is 'ſo (ſays he) appears even from that Tartar 'which is to be found more abundantly in the 'Vine than in any other Plant, and in that Vines 'will grow and thrive in thoſe Places wherein other 'Plants will not proſper, as not having Aliment 'enough; the Vines contenting themſelves in a 'manner only with that very Salt of the Earth,

'which

'which afterwards, together with the Wine (tho' 'variouſly chang'd) is derived into Man's Body; 'where being heap'd up, it affords Matter unto 'the *Gout*. The Wines therefore that are leaſt 'offenſive are ſuch as grow in a Sandy Earth, and 'contain leſs of this Tartarous Matter: And I 'know Places, where tho' Wine is drank in great 'abundance by the Inhabitants of them, I never 'heard that any of them were troubled with the '*Gout*. But on the contrary, thoſe Wines that 'grow in an Earth that is fat, muddy, clayiſh, 'ſtony, and that has in it a Mineral Marl, Gra-'vel-ſtones, or any thing elſe that is Mineral min-'gled with it, are very apt and ready to generate 'the *Gout*. Such as are the Wines of *Moravia*, *Bo-'hemia*, *Hungary*, and moſt of the Wines of *Au-'ſtria*.

The ſame learned Phyſician aſſerts, that there are likewiſe Waters that generate the *Gout*; 'For, 'ſays he, in thoſe Places where the *Gout* is *Epide-'mical*, not only the Rich that drink Wine, but 'the Poor alſo that drink Water, are afflicted with 'the *Gout*. *Julius Alexandrinus* relates, that he knew a certain Perſon, who was always troubl'd with the *Gout* upon the eating of *Carps* and *Breams*; ſo that he could when he liſted, bring the *Gout* upon himſelf.

Beſides thoſe notorious external Cauſes from which the *Gout* is generally thought to derive its Origin. Dr. *Muſgrave* (whom I quoted in the fore-going Chapter) has diſcover'd ſome more obſcure internal ones, and obſerves that he has known it produc'd by ſeveral Diſtempers of which it has appear'd like a Symptom. His *Latin* Book on this Subject, which he calls a *Treatiſe* of the *Symtomatick Gout*, is full of uſeful Obſervations; and the Di-ſtempers upon which in his Practice he has found the *Gout* to enſue as a ſecondary Diſeaſe, are the follow-

following. A *Rheumatiſm*, a *Dropſy*, the *Green-ſickneſs*, *Melancholy*, the *Hypochondriack* and *Hyſterick Paſſions*, the *Scurvy*, the *Pox*, an *Aſthma*, a *Fever*, the *Cholick*, and ſeveral *Cutaneous* Diſeaſes. Tho' no Body has written ſo largely concerning the *Symptomatick Gout*, as the learned Author I nam'd, yet the ſame has been taken Notice of by ſeveral before, and among others by *Averrhoes*, who teſtifies, that he himſelf became *Arthritick* from an acute Diſeaſe, when Nature by the *Criſis* had driven forth the Humours unto the Joints.

It is generally receiv'd that few or none have the *Gout*, before the uſe of *Venery*, unleſs where the Diſtemper is *Hereditary*. But what *Hippocrates* ſaid of Women, that they never had the *Gout*, unleſs their *Courſes* were ſtopt, did not hold true many Ages after his; for ſince Luxury is encreaſed, Women are troubl'd with it as well as Men; they having as *Seneca* well obſerves, *not chang'd their Nature, but their manner of Living*. That the *Rich* are more afflicted with it than the *Poor*, is unqueſtionable; but what the Generality of Phyſicians aſſert, that this Diſtemper as well as the *Hypochondriack Paſſion* never invade Fools, is contradicted by Doctor *Muſgrave*, who gives us a notable Inſtance of one, who having ſeveral Years been troubl'd with *Winds*, *Rumblings*, *Melancholy*, and many other Symptoms of the *Hypochondriack Paſſion*, was violently ſeiz'd with the *Gout*, and at laſt kill'd by theſe two Diſtempers.

Hitherto we have touch'd upon nothing, about which the different Opinions of Phyſicians have been many; but to ſee what has been ſaid concerning the immediate Cauſe of the *Gout*, we muſt enter into a ſpacious Field of Diſſention: Some will have it to be a bare *Intemperies*, or *Dyſcracy* without any afflux of Humours at all: Their Reaſon is, that often there is a Pain felt without the leaſt

Swelling;

Swelling; this is the Opinion of *Coſtæus*, as may be ſeen in his third Book upon *Avicen.* *Paræus* likewiſe gives us a Hiſtory of his own Diſeaſe, by which he would prove that a bare *Intemperies* may produce the *Gout*; and *Petrus Salius Diverſus*, makes mention of *Arthritick* Pains from Dryneſs. *Guainerius* and *Matthæus* alledge a Windineſs as the immediate Cauſe of the *Gout*, and if we believe *William Ten-Rhyne*, *Hippocrates* was of the ſame Opinion. This *Ten-Rhyne* was a *Dutch Phyſician*, that has wrote a *Treatiſe* of the *Gout*, in which affirming a Windineſs to be the Cauſe of that Diſtemper, he vindicates his Aſſertion after this manner. He firſt relates what *Hippocrates* has ſaid in his Book *de Flatibus*, touching the Air's being eſpecially the Author both of Life and Death to all Animals; as alſo his ſaying, that this Air or Spirit, which in our Bodies we call a Vapour, is the ſole Cauſe of all Diſeaſes, and afterwards has theſe Words. 'I 'therefore conclude with *Hippocrates* that the *Gout* 'ariſes from filthy diſeas'd Steams, or from a fla-'tuous Ventoſity, upon which if any Humour fol-'lows, it was the Vapour that made way for it.; and if this Authority ſhould not be ſufficient, he adds, that *Guido de Cauliaco*, a ſtout Voucher for the four Humours, had ſaid how he read in the Pope's Canons, that the *Gout* aroſe from Vapours.

Another *Dutchman* of the ſame Opinion, was *Herman Buſſchof.* The Motives that induc'd him to embrace it, were Firſt; the ſudden Cures which he had ſeen perform'd in the *Gout* by the *Moxa*, (of which more hereafter) for, ſays he, if it be true that the Medicine declares the Diſeaſe, as Phyſicians affirm with their Maſter *Hippocrates*; I muſt then conclude, that no Humours, but only a ſpirituous Thing, is the Cauſe of this Diſeaſe. Secondly, The ſudden Motion of the *Gouty* Matter, ſometimes diſlodging, in a very ſhort time, from one

Limb to another, from the Hand to the Foot, from one Foot to the other, *&c.* flying, as it were with ſwift Wings from above to beneath, and back again. Theſe he ſaid were the Reaſons that obliged him to judge, that it muſt be ſome ſpirituous Matter and not a Humour, that was able to do ſuch things.

Abundance of Phyſicians have agreed, that the neareſt Cauſe of the *Gout*, was a Humour, but then what that Humour was, has been a matter of endleſs Diſpute among them. Some ſay it is *Phlegm* mix'd with *Blood*; others that it is *Crude* and *Watery* Blood; and others again, that it is a *Whey*. Some accuſe all the Humours; *Blood*, *Choler*, *Phlegm* and *Melancholy*: *Arthritick* Pains (ſay they) are ſometimes appeas'd by the Evacuation of *Blood*; other Pains by the purging forth of the *Phlegm*; a third ſort from the emptying the Body of *Choler*; and the laſt kind of them, by the Evacuation of *Melancholy* are very much mitigated and allay'd; all which ſhew that the Cauſe of the *Arthritis* or *Gout*, is ſometimes *Hot*, and ſometimes *Cold*, and the Matter therefore is very various and different. *Fernelius* on the contrary denies that the *Blood*, *Choler*, or *Melancholy* can produce the *Gout*, and allows of no other Cauſe than a Cold *Pituitous*, or *Phlegmatick* and *Serous* Humour, affirming the *Gout* to be always a cold Diſtemper; yet *Thomas Eraſtus* in his Fourth Diſputation againſt *Paracelſus*, writes, that he never but once ſaw the *Gout* bred from a pure and meer *Phlegm*. *Carolus Piſo* again will have the *Serous* and *Wheyiſh* Uncleanneſs to be the only Cauſe of the *Gout*.

*Mercurialis* and others having conſider'd the vehement and wracking Pains that are often felt in the *Gout*, think it impoſſible they ſhould be excited from a cold Phlegmatick Humour; and add, that ſuch a Humour is likewiſe unfit for ſo quick and

ſudden

ſudden a Motion as we ſee in the *Gout*, and that it cannot poſſibly inſinuate it ſelf into thoſe membranous Parts; they therefore aſſert that a hot Cauſe accompanies the other, and conclude that the *Gout* has its Original from *Phlegm* mixt with *Choler*. *Ludovicus Mercatus* again will not allow any vitious Humours (tho' they ſhould abound) ſufficient to produce the *Gout*; unleſs the ſame be likewiſe crude and indigeſted. *Cardanus* holds the Cauſe of the *Gout* to be a *Spirit*, and *Sennertus* will have it to be a ſalt, ſharp, ſubtile Humour, ſuch a one as for the greateſt part reſembles ſalt Spirits.

Many of the Chymiſts, as *Paracelſus*, *Petrus Severinus*, and others, have laid all the Fault upon the *Synovia*; by which Term they mean the pellucid *Mucilage* that is every where tranſcolated thro' the *Glands*, to lubricate the Parts, and more eſpecially the Joints, and is of like ſort with what we ſee to run out of *Calve's* Feet when they are cut. The Diſeaſe (they ſay) is a mineral Liquor, or a ſour auſtere Juice, ſuch as are *Allum*, *Vitriol*, *Vinegar*, *Barberries*, *Acacia*, and the like; which being Salts contrary and oppoſite to the *Synovia*, when they are generated in Men, make it boil over. The ingenious Dr. *Willis* is of Opinion, that to cauſe the *Gout*, a vitriolick Matter is brought from the Nerves, which meeting with ſome ſaline fix'd Particles of the Blood, they both boil up and grow hot together, and afterwards turn to a *Coagulum* or Curd: To prove this, he gives a known Inſtance of *Spirit* of *Vitriol* poured to *Oil* of *Tartar*; and why (ſays he) may we not think that in the Fits of the *Gout*, there is ſomething like it? *Viz.* That from the fighting and mutual Conflict of the Liquors, which are of a diverſe ſaline Nature, the Nervous Fibres are prick'd and provok'd, and at length from the various Coagulations of either Juice, that there is ſometimes heap'd together in

the affected Places a Calculous or Stony Matter.

Dr. *Liſter*'s Sentiment hereabouts is ſingular; he imagines that by ſome of the *Procatarctick* Cauſes, the *excretory Ducts* about the Joints may be debilitated, relax'd, or obſtructed, and to be reduc'd unfit to perform their uſual Contractions. Hence he thinks it will follow, that the Mucilaginous Humour now made *ex crudo & lento ſero*, from a crude and viſcous Serum, by ſtagnating in the *excretory Ducts*, will eaſily putrify, grow ſharp, and be turned into an Ichorous Matter, and at laſt by corroding the Bones, be capable of turning them into a chalky or ſtony Subſtance.

*Tachenius*, *Sylvius* and *Etmuller* accuſe likewiſe the *Synovia*, but more rationally than *Paracelſus* and his Followers. They conſider the *Synovia* as a ſweet and temperately *Alcalick* Balſam of Nature. This they ſay is the proper Object of the Volatile and Spirituous *Acid* of *Gouty* People, by which being attack'd, the Mucilaginous Subſtance is ſucceſſively thickned like the White of Eggs, and in tract of time turn'd into a chalky or ſtony Matter; and ſo perfectly Chalky is it in ſome People, that they have mark'd a Table with their Knuckles, as if they had common Chalk in their Hands. Whoever would know more of this Mucilage, *Synovia*, or Glutinous Matter betwixt the Joints, and the *Glands* that emit it, muſt conſult the *Oſteologia Nova* of Dr. *Havers*, who is alſo of the laſt mention'd Opinion, and has treated that Matter with greater Accuracy than any that have writ before him.

How little certainty ſoever there is to be found among the Learned, concerning the Peccant Humour that cauſes the *Gout*, yet the generality of the Moderns, and moſt of the Ancients agreed in this, that it is a violent, exalted, and as ſome call it, *Vitriolick* Acid; till ſome few Years ago, that nothing might remain uncontroverted, Dr. *Colbatch*

in Oppoſition of them all, at once abſolved the *Acids* of all the Crimes laid to their Charge, not only in *Gouts* and *Rheumatiſms*, but alſo in the *Scurvy*, *Conſumptions*, *Fevers*, and many other Diſtempers, and threw the Fault (not without Argument) upon the *Alcaly*'s, the great *Aſylum* of ſo many famous Phyſicians. He has Chymically ſeparated the Blood of ſeveral Perſons both Sick and Sound, and never met with a grain of *Acid* in any, but found the *Alcalies* more abounding in a morbid than a healthy State. He has demonſtrated moreover, that the *Tophi* or Chalk-ſtones bred in the Joints, were made at the time of the Fit, that they were *Homogeneous* Bodies, and notorious *Alcalies*, and conſequently, that it was impoſſible they ſhould be produc'd by *Acids:* No Body has yet fairly overthrown his Arguments; and what Work this muſt make among the Profeſſion of Phyſick, I leave the Reader to judge, when the Author himſelf confeſſes, that if his *Hypotheſis* be true, which he ſeems not to doubt of, then all other Phyſicians have been in the wrong.

Nor do the Learned differ more in defining the Morbifick *Gouty* Matter it ſelf, than they do in aſſigning a Seat for it, I mean the Mine where it is heap'd up, and from whence at the Time of the *Paroxyſm*, it is fetch'd to afflict the Parts. Several will have the Humour to be derived from the Head: Some of them ſay, that it comes from between the Skull and the Skin; others hold that it flows, not only that way, but likewiſe deſcends from within, by the Superficies of the Spinal Marrow. *Fernelius* is of the firſt, and *Euſtachius Rudius* of the latter. A third ſort ſay, that it comes down thro' the very middle Subſtance of the Marrow.

Many are of Opinion, that the Humour is contain'd within the Veins and Arteries, and out of them poured forth into the Joints. *Sennertus* is one

of

of theſe, and judging that it muſt of neceſſity be generated in ſome Concoction of the Blood, determines it to be in the Liver and Spleen; the Sanguification being there hurt in its own Manner. Another is *Adrian Spigelius*, but with this Difference, that tho' he acknowledges the Afflux to be made in the Veins and Arteries, he is yet unwilling wholly to deſert the Opinion which determine that the Humours flow from the Head; wherefore he concludes, that the Fluxion is both from the Head and the Liver. But no Body renders this Matter more intricate than *Franciſcus India*, a *Veroneſe* Phyſician, who in his firſt Book of the *Gout*, writes, that the Members that ſend forth theſe Superfluities are various and many; and eſpecially the Head, the Stomach, the Inteſtines, the Liver, and the Kidneys, and that thoſe Fluxions are indeed more eſpecially from the Head and from the Brain; becauſe that tho' thoſe Humours draw their Original from the Stomach and other Members before they flow into the Joints, they firſt of all aſcend into the Head, and from thence are afterwards tranſmitted into the Parts lying underneath it.

*Tachenius*, *Etmuller*, and others, trace the Original of the Acid *Gouty* Matter that affects the *Synovia*, from the Stomach and a depraved Digeſtion, and amongſt them *Helmont*, in theſe Words. 'The 'Original of the *Gout* is in the Stomach, which 'breeds an *Acid* which infeſts the *Archæus*, this '*Acid* inſinuating it ſelf into the *Synovia*, coagu-'lates it, and at length by a preternatural Heat it 'is harden'd into Chalk, and that the Intenſeneſs 'or Remiſſneſs of the Pain, is according to the 'difference of the Salts, whence the Acidity pro-'ceeds. But *Sylvius de le Boe* derives it from the *Pancreatick* Juice, and ſome Salt in the Bile and Salival Humour, mixing themſelves together in the Guts.

There

There are other Opinions, of which for fear of tiring my Reader, I ſhall take no notice, for to relate every thing that has been ſaid upon this Head, would be an endleſs piece of Work, and to have repeated all the Arguments that have been broach'd to defend and refute the ſeveral Opinions already quoted, muſt have ſwell'd this one Chapter to a very large Volume: What I deſign'd, was to ſay as much of theſe Things as would be ſufficient to ſhow the Reader, what Certainty the moſt Learned Phyſician could have to boaſt of in his Art, whenever the true Knowledge of the Diſeaſe I treat of, came in queſtion.

## CHAP. V.

### *Of the Cure of the* Gout.

HAving ſeen how ſtrangely the moſt famous Phyſicians diſagree about the internal Cauſe and Fomes or Mine of the Diſeaſe, no Man of Senſe can expect to meet in their Writings with any Method of Cure that is much to be depended upon. As to Remedies againſt the *Gout*, they are as innumerable, as are the Perſons that are afflicted with it, every one almoſt having his particular Remedy; and as to thoſe preſcrib'd in Phyſical Books, they are ſo plentifully to be met with, that it would be much eaſier to fill a dozen Leaves with ſuch of them as are recommended by ſome Author or other, than half a Page with ſuch Simples, as either by themſelves or mixt with others have ever been uſed to Cure this Diſtemper. The candid *Sydenham*, not willing as other Authors are uſed, to enumerate and ſeem to recommend a heap of Remedies which in his Conſcience he knew to be of little

little Efficacy in the Cure of ſo ſtubborn a Diſtemper, refers his Readers, as to the *Materia Medica* to *Lucian*'s Tragedy of the *Gout*, from whence he ſaid they might chuſe Externals and Internals, which perhaps they might find as effectual as many of thoſe Things that were cry'd up by ſome. But if this won't ſatisfie the curious Reader, and Compound Medicines are requir'd, let him conſult *Sennertus* and Sir *Theodore de Mayerne*, and in only theſe two Books, not to name any other, he'll meet with as much Variety of judicious Preſcriptions, as any reaſonable Man would deſire.

Notwithſtanding the great uncertainty in which Phyſicians fluctuate as to the true Method of Cure in this Diſtemper, moſt of thoſe in repute among us lay the greateſt Streſs upon *Alcalies*: For which reaſon I ſhall tranſcribe as a Model, a certain Series of Preſcriptions (conſiſting chiefly of *Alcalies* and *Opiates*) which a very noted Phyſician ſometime ago order'd to a Noble Man in this Diſtemper.

*April the* 8*th*, 1691.

℞ *Aq. Ceraſor. Nigr. flor. Tiliæ, an.* ℥vj. *Cinnamon. hord. Citri totius an.* ʒſs. *Diacodij* ʒj. *Laud. Liquid. Cydon. gut.* xij. *m. cap. horâ ſomni.*

℞ *Decoct. Amar. (fact. cum Sennâ, Rhabarb, an.* ℥iſs. *Salis Tart.* ℈ij, *Quinquin.* ʒj.*)* ʒiv. *Crem. Tartari* ℥ſs. *Syr. flor. Perſicor. Aq. Cinnam. Hord. an.* ʒſs. *m. cap. horâ ſeptimâ matutinâ ſuper dormiat.*

℞ *Aq. Lact. Alex. Ceraſor. Nigr. an.* ʒiv. *Pæoniæ Comp. Cinnam. Hord. Protheriacalis an.* ʒj. *Perlar ppt. Oculor Cancri ppt. an.* ℥ij *Alkermes* ℥v. *Syr. flor. Tunicæ* ʒj. *m. cap. Cochlear.* 3. *vel* 4. *prout neceſſitas poſtulabit.*

April

April 9.

℞ *Aq. Regin. Hungar.* ℥v. *Tinct. Caſtor. S. V. extract. Tinct. Croci. S. V. extract. an.* ℥iij. *Tinct. Opij. S. V. extract.* ℥ijſs. *Camphoræ* ℥v. *ſacchar. ſaturni* ℥ſs. *m.*

℞ *Emp. de ſapone* ℥iij. *Opij ſoluti & inſpiſſati* ℥ijſs. *Camphoræ* ℥ij, *ſacchari ſaturni* ℥iij *m. f. Emplaſtr.*

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alex.* ℥vj. *ſpir. Menthæ, Pæon. Comp. an.* ℥ſs. *Diacodij* ℥j. *Laud. Liq. Lond. gut.* xviij. *m. cap. horâ ſomni.*

℞ *Ol. Mac. per Exp.* ℥ſs. *Balſam. Lucatull.* ℥j, *Balſam. de Gilead.* ℥iij. *Ol. ſtil. Lumb. terreſt. ſtill. Abſynthij, Cariophillor. an.* ℥j. *m. cum quo inungetur Regio Ventriculi ad minimum bis in die, poſt injunctionem applicetur iſti Regioni Empl. de Theriacâ venet.*

℞ *Conchar. pr. Oculor. Cancri, an. gr.* xiij. *ſalis Abſynth.* ℈ſs, *Cinnabar. nativi gr.* viij. *cap. mane craſtino die cum Cochlear. Julap. prius præſcript. ſuperbibendo Cochlear.* iij. *ejuſdem. Repetatur Pulv. præced. horâ 7. veſpertinâ, addendo Laud. Opiati gr.* iij.

April 12.

℞ *Gummi Ammon. puriſſ. Maſtiches, Thuris. an.* ℥ij, *ſuccini pr. Oculor. Cancri, Corallij rub. an.* ℥j. *Cinnabar nativi, ſacchar. ſaturni, an.* ℥iij. *milleped. pr.* ℥ſs. *caſtor.* ℥j. *croci* ℥iij, *ſalis volat. ſuccin.* ℥iſs, *viperar.* ℥ij. *Camphoræ* ℈ij, *cum q. s. Ammoniaci ſine Acido ſolut. & inſpiſſat. F. Pil. ſign.* The Altering Pills.

℞ *Aq. Reg. Hungar.* ℥iv. *Tinct. Caſtor. S. V. extr. Tinct. croci S. V. extr. an.* ℥ij. *Tinct. Opij ſp. Vin. extr.* ℥vj. *ſp. Lumbricor.* ℥vj. *Camphoræ* ℥v. *ſacch. ſaturni*

*ſaturni* ℥ſs. *m. ſignetur*, The Mixture for external Application.

℞ *Empl. de Vigo 4to Mercurio, De Ammon. cum cicutâ an.* ℥iij. *Camphoræ* ℥ſs. *ſacchar. ſaturn.* ʒv. *Opij ſolut. ſine Acido & inſpiſſat.* ℥ſs. *ſine ignis calore mixt. f. Magdaleon. adde Caſtor. Croci an.* ℥ſs. *ſp. Lumbricor. q. s. ad Malaxationem.*

April 15.

℞ *Balſam. Lucatulli* ℥ij, *Ol. Macis per Expreſſ.* ʒj, *Axung. Urſi, Anſeris an.* ℥ſs, *Balſ. de Gilead.* ʒvj, *Ol. ſuccini, Petrolei, an.* ℥ſs, *Ol. deſtillat. Cinnam.* ʒvj, *ſpir. Lumbricor. Formicar. an.* ʒiij, *Ol. deſtillat. Buxi* ʒij, *Cariophillor.* ʒijſs, *Camphoræ* ʒvj, *Ol. Laurini, Hyperici, Rutæ, an.* ℥ſs, *m. f. Linimentum, pro externa applicat. part. affect.*

April 19.

℞ *Spirit. Cochlear.* ℥ij, *Diaſcordij* ʒiij, *Aq. ſperm. Ranar.* ℥iſs, *Regin. Hungar.* ʒj, *Laud. liq. gut.* 40 *m. ſignetur*, The Waſh for the Gums.

℞ *Corall. pr. Oſſis ſepiæ ſubt. pulv. Lapis ſpongiæ, an.* ʒiij, *Terræ Catechu. ſacchari ſaturn. an.* ʒij, *cum Mell. Roſat. q. s. f. Opiatum. ſign.* The Opiat for the Gums.

April 20.

℞ *Aq. Ceraſor. nigr.* ℥iſs, *Lact. Alexit. ſp. Menthæ, Diacodij, an.* ℥j, *Aq. Gentian. Comp.* ʒiij *Oculor. Cancri* ℈j, *Laud. Liquid. gut.* 15. *m. ſign.* The quieting Potion.

April 22.

℞ *Heder. Terreſt. Parietariæ, Malvæ an. m.* j, *flor. Chamomillæ, Meliloti, Sambuci, an. P.* j, *f. Decoct. in q. ſ. Aq. Font. & Coletur. Hujus Colatur.* ℞ ʒvj. *vin. Emetic.* ℥ij, *Diacatholic. Mell. Mercurialis, an.* ℥vj, *Ol. Laurini* ℥j. *m. f. Clyſt. detur quamprimum.*

℞ *Diaſcor-*

℞ *Diascordij* ℥j, *oculor. Cancri* ℈j, *sal. volat. succini, Bezoar. Mineral. an. gr.* xxv. *Laud. Opiati gr.* iij, *Alkermes* ℈j, *cum syr. Papav. alb. q. s. f. Opiatum detur horâ somni.*

April 25.

℞ *Decoct. Amari (fact cum senn.* ℥ij *Rhabarb.* ℥j. *Salis Tartar.* ℈ij.) ℥iv. *syr. flor. Persicor.* ℥j. *Aq. Cinnamon.* ℥j. *Cremor. Tart. Solub.* ℥j *m. f. Potio, cap. cras mane.*

April 30.

℞ *Ext. Rudij* ℈ij. *sal. Tart. gr.* vj. *m. f. Pil. No.* v. *cap. horâ 6tâ aut septimâ mane.*

℞ *Aq. Gentian. Comp. Absynth. Comp. an.* ℥iij. *sp. Lavend. Comp. Spirit. Menthæ, an.* ℥ij. *Tinct. Bezoart.* ℥j. *sp. Castor.* ℥iij. *Conf. Alkermes* ℥ss. *syr. flor. Tunicæ* ℥j. *Laud. Liquid.* ℥iij. *m. signetur,* The Cordial.

*May* 29.

℞ *Aq. Mirabilis* ℥iij. *Spirit. Menthæ* ℥iv. *m. pro vehiculo Laud. Opiati. Pulv. e Chel.* 69. ℥ss.

*May* 31.

℞ *Theriacæ Venet. Diascordij an.* ℥j. *Alkermes Comp.* ℈j. *salis volat. succini, Bezoard. min. an.* ℥ss. *Laud. Opiat. gr.* iv. *m. cap. ante cubitum.*

June 1.

*Repetatur Opiatum præced.*

June 4.

℞ *Oculor. Cancri gr.* xvj. *Cinnabaris Nativi gr.* ix. *Pulv. e Chelis Comp. gr.* xv. *Laud. Opiati gr.* iij. *m. f. Pulv. cap. ante hora somni.*

Theſe Preſcriptions are quoted by Dr. *Colbatch*, who was pleas'd to make the following Remarks upon them.

'Here, ſays he, are *Alkalies* and *Opiates* with a 'Witneſs; but it is to be noted, that moſt of 'theſe Medicines were ſeveral times repeated, yet 'inſtead of being any ways Serviceable, exaſpera-'ted the Symptoms, and not only fix'd the Mor-'bifick Matter upon the affected Parts, but de-'ſtroy'd the Texture of the Blood to ſuch a de-'gree, that a Dropſy follow'd, which prov'd of 'fatal Conſequence.

'The Medicines here preſcrib'd, are thoſe 'that are generally uſed by moſt Phyſicians, 'and if ever any Body receiv'd Advantage by 'them, I dare be burnt; and that ever Men 'ſhould have ſuch dull Fancies, as not to vary 'from a Method that has never once ſtood them 'in any ſtead, looks very odd; and as for *Alca-'lious* Medicines in general, I dare be poſitive, that 'they never yet cur'd any one Diſtemper, but 'very frequently have done a great deal of Miſ-'chief.

The Phyſician from whom I have tranſcrib'd this, in conformity to his Doctrine, has preſcrib'd a Method of curing the *Gout*, by *Acids*, or at leaſt without the Uſe of any noted *Alcalies*, which to ſhew how oppoſite and contradictory the Gentlemen of the Faculty are to each other, I ſhall ſet down in the Author's own Words.

'The Indications of Cure, ſays the Doctor, du-'ring the time of a Fit are Two-fold. *Firſt*, The 'eaſing and taking off the moſt intollerable Pain. '*Secondly*, The correcting and carrying off the 'Morbifick Matter. Both which Things the fol-'lowing Method will very rarely fail to effect.

'When I come to a Patient, who has a Fit of 'the *Gout*, let it be a regular or irregular one, it

'matters

'matters not, the Indications of Cure, and the 'Matter cauſing the Diſtemper being the ſame; 'reſpect muſt be had to the Age and Conſtitution 'of the Patient, and his former way of Living; 'and according as theſe vary, in ſome reſpects, 'the Preſcriptions muſt be varied. But my De-'ſign being to give a general Account of the Cure 'of the *Gout*, I leave thoſe little Variations that 'are to be made, to the Judgment and Diſcretion 'of every Phyſician.

'I firſt of all, if there are Indications that re-'quire it, as generally there be, preſcribe Blood-'letting from 12 to 20 Ounces, more or leſs, as 'occaſion requires. I afterwards order the fol-'lowing Medicines to be taken once in four Hours; 'the Doſes of which are either to be leſſen'd or 'increaſed according to the Strength and Conſti-'tution of the Patient: But this ought always to 'be obſerv'd, that they muſt be given in great 'Quantities, as to occaſion two, three, or four 'Stools in 24 Hours. Now the Strength and 'Conſtitutions of People being ſo various, it is 'impoſſible to preſcribe a determinate Quantity 'for every Body in a general Treatiſe: But the 'generality of Phyſicians having given *Cremor Tar-'tari*, and *Tartarum Vitriolatum* in ſuch inconſider-'able Doſes, I have choſen to Proportion my 'Doſes of them for the ſtrongeſt Bodies, that I 'might excite my Brethren to a more liberal uſe 'of 'em.

℞ *Cremor. Tartari* ℥j. *Tartari Vitriolati* ℥ij. *ol. Cariophill. gut.* xx. *m. f. Pulvis, in* 4*or Chartulas di-ſtrib. ex quibus cap. unam,* 4*tâ quâq; horâ, in Cochle-ar. ſyrup. Balſ. Tolutani, ſuperbibendo* ℥iv. *Infuſio-nis ſequentis.*

℞ *Rad.*

℞ *Rad. Eringij ſiccat.* ℥ij, *Lign. Saſſaphr.* ℥vj. *Aq. Fontan.* ℔iiij, *infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & coletur; Colaturæ* ℔ij, *adde Elix. Sulph.* ℥iij. *m.*

'Let them drink for their conſtant Drink the 'following Julep.

℞ *Vini Rhenani veteris; Aq. Fontan. an.* ℔iſs, *Elix. Sulph.* ℥ſs. *ſacchari Albiſſimi* ℥iſs. *m. f. Julap. cap. pro potu ordinario.*

'For change ſake, by reaſon that People are 'ſubject to be tired with the conſtant Uſe of any 'one thing, inſtead of the former Julep for their 'conſtant Drink, they may drink either *Lemmon-* 'ade, or Barly-water acidulated with *Oil* of *Sul-* 'phur, and ſweeten'd with double-refin'd Sugar; 'or elſe Claret and Water ſweeten'd with Sugar, 'and acidulated with dulcified *Oil* of *Vitriol*; and 'frequently I allow 'em to drink a Glaſs or two 'of Claret alone.

'To take off the Pain, I apply the following 'Balſam to the Part affected twice a day, to wit 'Morning and Evening, till the Pain abates or 'goes off. I order it to be uſed in the following 'manner: Let ſome of it be applied to the Part 'affected, and with a warm Hand be rubb'd in for 'a quarter of an hour; then apply a piece of ſoft 'brown Paper, and upon that Flannel-Cloths, 'three or four double. After uſing this two or 'three times, there will little Heats and Bliſters 'ariſe on the Part, from which for the moſt part 'is diſcharg'd a very great quantity of acrid *Se-* 'rum. The Virtues of this Balſam are ſo great, 'eſpecially in this Caſe, that it deſerves to be 'written in Letters of Gold, and yet the Prepa- 'ration of it is moſt ſimple and eaſy, as all good 'Medicines are.

℞ *Olei*

℞ *Olei Olivarum* ℥viiij, *olei Vitrioli optimè rectificati* ℥ij, *optimè miſceantur in Vaſe vitreo, collo aperto, & ſtatim fiat Balſamum rubicundiſſimum.*

'If the *Oleum Vitrioli* be not exactly well rectified and very ſtrong, they will not mix; but if it be, they will immediately be converted into a Balſam as thick as Treacle, and after it has ſtood a Month or ſix Weeks, it will become of the Conſiſtence of *Lucatully*'s Balſam, with a greyiſh Coat on the top. I have already communicated this to many People, and receiv'd thanks for it from ſeveral parts of *England*.

'Beſides the forementioned Balſam, the following *Lixivium* is an admirable thing; I have known it do wonders ſometimes: But I am afraid it is not ſo much to be relied on as the Balſam is, though by the Uſe of it alone I have known *Gouts* of half a Year's ſtanding cured.

℞ *Urinæ vaccæ* ℔iv, *bulliatur parum, tunc adde ſalis Marini* ℔iij. *& iterum bulliantur donec ſal diſſolvitur, cum hoc Lixivio, optimè foveantur Partes affectæ, relinquendo in partes pannum laneum calidum ter duplicatum, in Lixivio madefacto & Liquore cum manibus fortiter expreſſo.*

'Let this be repeated Morning and Evening, 'till the Pain is abated and gone.

'For near theſe two Years I have not at all uſed the *Lixivium*, but always relied either on the Balſam, or one of the following Medicines: And to People whoſe Skins are very tender, I have choſe rather to uſe one of the following Medicines than the Balſam; and in ſome Caſes where the Pains have been extreme, and the Tone of the Parts much ſpoiled, I have made uſe of

'both,

'both, firſt the Formentation, and then the Em-
'brocation, applying afterwards a warm Flannel
'Cloth.

## The Fomentation.

℞ *Flor. Sambuci, Chamomillæ, an. m.* j. *flor. Anthos, Lavendulæ an. m*ſs. *Aceti Vini albi, vel Pomor. Sylveſt.* ℔iij. *Infunde clausè & calidè in vaſe terreo vitriato, per horas tres, & coletur; cum Colaturâ foveantur partes affectæ bis in die, ſuperponendo pannum laneum.*

## The Embrocation.

℞ *Ol. Vitrioli Dulc. per digeſt. fact.* ℥j, *ſpir. Vini Com.* ℥viij. *m. f. mixtura, cum quâ embrocentur partes affectæ manè & ſerò, ſuper ponendo pannum laneum.*

'Neither of theſe Things will relax the Tone
'of the Parts, nor repel the Morbifick Matter;
'but will mortify and correct the one, and con-
'firm the Tone and Texture of the other.

'Till the Violence of the Pain is ſomewhat aba-
'ted, I every Night give an Opiate, either in a
'Liquid or Solid Form. As for inſtance.

℞ *Aq. Lactis Alex.* ℥ij, *Mirabilis* ℥iij, *Syr. Papaveris rhead.* ℥ſs, *Laud. Liquid. gutt,* xx, xxx, *vel* xl. *Ol. ſulphur. per Camp. gut. aliquot ad acidum ſaporem, f. Hauſt. horâ ſomni aſſumend. vel.*

℞ *Theriac. Androm.* ℥ij *Tartar. Vitriol.* ℥ſs, *Laud. Opiati gr.* ij°. *m. f. Bolus horâ ſomni aſſumend. vel.*

℞ *Diacodij* ℥j, ℥ſs, *vel* ℥ij, *Olei Sulphur. per Camp. q. ſ. ad moderatam aciditatem, cap. horâ decubitus.*

'The Doſe of *Opiates* may be greater or leſs,
'according as People have been accuſtom'd
'to

'to take them; for the more People have 'been us'd to take *Opiates*, the larger quan-'tity they require.

'I uſe *Opiates* on no other ſcore, than to gain 'time, to ſtupify and blunt the Senſes, till other 'Medicines can take place: Tho' very frequently, 'nay for the moſt part I have no occaſion to uſe 'them at all.

'And if People will but be perſuaded to omit 'the Uſe of them, their Fits will always be the 'ſhorter; and when they are off, will leave them 'much more vigorous and ſtrong than when *Opiates* 'are uſed. And therefore of late I have with all 'imaginable Induſtry endeavour'd totally to avoid 'them.

'During this time I forbid the Uſe of Milk, 'and all Milk Meats, they being very pernicious; 'but once a Day I allow a moderate Meal of any 'Meat of very eaſy Digeſtion, if their Stomachs 'crave it: Otherwiſe order them to eat ſometimes 'Water-gruel, or Barly-gruel, and ſometimes 'Chicken or Veal-Broth; and in every Poringer 'of either of the ſaid Things, inſtead of common 'Salt, to put about a quarter of an Ounce of '*Cremor Tartar*, [or elſe acidulate it with Juice of 'Orange or Lemmon.]

'When the Violence of the Diſtemper is in ſome 'meaſure abated, which in ſome People will be in 'a ſhort time, in others a longer, according as 'Nature is more or leſs debilitated, and the Mat-'ter of the Diſtemper more or leſs: I ſay, when 'the Violence of the Diſtemper is abated, then 'the foregoing Method muſt be alter'd, and the 'following Medicines us'd.

℞ *Lapidis Hæmatitis* ℥ſs, *Cremoris Tartari* ℥j, *Olei Saſſaph. gut.* 40. *m. f. Pulv. in* 4*or chartulas diſtribu-*

*end. cap. j, primò manè & horâ decubitus, in Cochlear. Syrup. Balſam. ſuperbbiendo Hauſt. infuſionis ſequentis.*

℞ *Rad. Bardanæ ſiccat.* ʒiv, *Baccar. Juniper.* ʒiij, *ſem. Bardanæ, Fraxini an.* ʒiij, *Lign. Saſſaphr.* ʒſs, *Aq. Font. bullientis* ℔v. *Infunde clauſe & Calidè per horas ſex, & Coletur. Colaturæ ſingul. libris duabus, adde Elix. Sulphuris* ʒij, *m.*

'These Things will cauſe gentle and eaſy Evacuations, correct the Luxuriant Alkalious Particles, and confirm the Tone of the Parts.

'Inſtead of the foregoing Medicines, I ſometimes give theſe which follow.

℞ *Cinnabaris fact. com. optimè levigat.* ʒſs, *Gum. Guaiaci* ʒiij, *Conſ. Cynosbati* ʒiſs, *Syr. ſambuci q. ſ. f. Elect. cap. quant. Nucis Moſchatæ primò manè & horâ decubitus, ſuperbibendo* ʒvj *vel* viij *Infuſionis ſequentis.*

℞ *Rad. Bardanæ ſiccat.* ʒiv, *Baccar. Juniperi* ʒiij, *Bardanæ, Fraxini an.* ʒſs, *Ligni Saſſaphr.* ʒvj, *Aq. font. bull.* ℔v, *Infunde clausè & calidè per horas ſex, & Coletur, Colaturæ libris duabus adde ſp. Ligni Guaiaci optimè rectificati* ʒſs, *m.*

'These Medicines as well as the former, will cauſe plentiful and eaſy Evacuations, without weakning the Patient, or pauling the Appetite; and tho' ſometimes they work briskly, yet at the ſame time the Patient will gather Strength. Now according to the beſt of my Obſervations, all that is requir'd in the Cure of a Chronical Diſtemper, is to cauſe plentiful Evacuations without weakning the Patient; which intention the foreſaid Medicines will ſeldom or never fail to anſwer: And I do not queſtion, but whoever

'ſhall

'ſhall think fit to try them, will find I ſay no 'more than Truth.

'If the Medicines given at the firſt beginning 'of a Fit, do at any time make People go to Stool 'too often, I then order them to drink freely of 'an Infuſion of Oak-bark, which greatly confirms 'the Tone of Animal Subſtances. As,

℞ *Cort. Querci ſiccat. & contus.* ℥iv, *Aq. Font. tepid.* ℔iij, *Infunde per Noctem, & Coletur.*

This laſt Method differs from that follow'd in the former Preſcriptions, almoſt as much as Night does from Day, or Black from White: Yet ſome Phyſicians cry up the one, ſome the other, and ſome again ſay (which is very probable) that neither of them is worth a Farthing. From hence the Reader may judge of the great certainty the Learned Phyſicians are in as to the Method of curing the *Gout*.

If I ſhould leave off here, and inſinuate as if there were no other Methods known by which the *Gout* has been cured, I ſhould wrong the Faculty of Phyſick. *Salmuth* tells us of one that was Cured by a fright: The Patient having his Feet and Hands cover'd with a *Poultice* made of *Turnips*, *Flower* and *Milk*, and being left in his Chair in a low Room, was, whilſt his Servants were all gone into the Garden, aſſaulted by a *Sow*, who, finding the Door open, and invited by the ſmell of the *Cataplaſm*, came to devour it; and ſtriving to do ſo, flung the ſick Man, and the Chair to the Ground, and put him into ſuch a fright, that our Author tells us, that very Day his Pains decreas'd, and continu'd leſſening by degrees, till at length they wholly left him, without ever returning to trouble him again.

*Petrus Borellus* adviſes the *Gouty* Patient to let young Puppies lie with him: For, ſays he, they'll contract the Diſtemper, and the Patient will be wonderfully reliev'd.

I have met with two other Methods, which 'tis pity to deprive the Reader from. The firſt is of one *Lewis Noel*, a Surgeon of *Geneva*, that had long been afflicted with the *Gout*. When he was laid up of a Fit, comes in a Madwoman, who catching hold of his Feet, hit one againſt the other, with all the Strength ſhe had, till ſome Body came to his Aſſiſtance and turn'd her out of Doors; he never afterwards was troubled with the *Gout*, tho' he liv'd till he was almoſt Ninety. The other is what *Michael Doringius*, a Surgeon of *Breſlaw* relates of a Phyſician who was a *Knight*, and bargain'd with an Inn-keeper his Hoſt for 300 Florens to Cure him of the *Gout*. Having taken a Note under the Patient's Hand, the Doctor orders him to ſet his Feet upon a Block; and having his Servants, two or three ſtout Fellows by to hold him in that Poſture, he takes a Hammer, and with half a dozen good Spikes, nails him to the Block; When he had done, he took Horſe and left his Hoſt a roaring. The *Knight* in the mean time enquir'd how Matters went, and after three Years, when he heard the *Gout* was not return'd, came back and demanded his Pay.

Such merry Stories as theſe are plentifully intermix'd with the Labours of the Learned, but he that looks for Things really Beneficial and to be depended upon in the Diſtemper I ſpeak of, muſt go without them; which has made me often wonder why the Gentlemen of the Faculty ſhould take it ſo heinouſly if any Body dares meddle with the *Gout*, that is no graduate Phyſician, and wants Univerſity Education: When they are conſcious, that as to the Cure of the *Gout*, none of them has

writ

writ any thing to the Purpoſe. The Obſervations indeed of the Sagacious Dr. *Muſgrave*, are (as I have ſaid once already) very uſeful in the Practice of Phyſick: To give him his due, it muſt be confeſs'd, that without meddling with frivolous Diſputes, either in refuting the *Syſtems* of others, or trumping up new ones of his own, he has had *Nature* for his Guide, and *Reaſon* for his Companion, and that his Preſcriptions are every where pertinent and judicious; but then he has ſaid nothing of the *Gout* as it is a primary Diſtemper, and only treated of thoſe *Gouts* that are either Symptomatick or Anomalous: That is, when the *Gout* ſucceeds and has its Origin from any other Diſtemper, he teaches what regard in the Cure of it muſt be had to that Diſtemper from which it was deriv'd; and when on the other Hand the *Miaſma Arthriticum* invades the Trunk it ſelf, and there perſonates various Diſtempers, he gives Directions how to chaſe it from within, and make it return upon the Joints, which latter, inſtead of *Curing*, is the Art of *Procuring*, or giving the *Gout*; and what the ingenious Dr. *Baynard* ſays of Dr. *Muſgrave*, *That he has ſaid of the* Gout *all that can be ſaid of it*, can in my Opinion admit of no other Interpretation, than that the primary *Gout*, of which he has not ſpoke one Syllable, is not to be meddled with, becauſe among the moſt candid Phyſicians it is counted Incurable.

Honeſt Dr. *Sydenham*, who knew and had both read and felt as much of the Diſtemper as any Body, ingenuouſly confeſs'd, that he could not Cure it. And there are but few Authors to be met with that have treated of the *Gout*, in whom to your Comfort you ſhall not find the known *Hexameter* with which I ſhall conclude this Chapter.

*Tollere*

*Tollere Nodoſam neſcit Medicina Podagram.*

*All th' Art of Phyſick cannot rout,*
*The ſtubborn Pains of Knotty* Gout.

## CHAP. VI.

### *Of Curing the* Gout, *by the* Moxa.

ANother uncommon Method of Curing the *Gout*, which, becauſe it has ſome reality in it, I thought deſerv'd a Chapter by it ſelf, is Burning. *Hippocrates* was the firſt Inventor of it; for in his *Treatiſe* of *Diſeaſes*, he ſays; 'If the 'Pain continues obſtinate in any one Part, and 'cannot be expell'd by Medicines; in whatever 'Part it is, you muſt burn it with Crude Flax. And ſpeaking of the *Gout*, he ſays, 'The Diſeaſe 'is indeed long and grievous, but not mortal; 'but if the Pain remains in the Toes, burn them 'above the Joints with Crude Flax. This uncouth Practice had been neglected many Ages, and was almoſt buried in oblivion among the *Europeans*; but in *China* and *Japan*, it ſeems this Practice is, and has been time out of Mind in great repute, not only in the *Gout*, but all manner of Diſtempers; and the firſt that reviv'd it among us, was one *Herman Buſſchof*, of whom I have made mention in ſome of the foregoing Chapters. This Gentleman was a Miniſter at *Batavia*, in the Service of the *Dutch Eaſt-India Company*. He was much troubled with the *Gout*, and having in one Fit, paſs'd five or ſix Weeks in ſuch exceſſive Pains in his Knees and Feet, that in ſpight of his Teeth, they ſometimes extorted Tears from his Eyes, and keeping him

him in a manner always ſleepleſs, conſum'd his Fleſh as well as Strength; an *Indian* Doctreſs freed him in leſs than half an Hour from his Torments, by burning the Place affected with a certain *Indian* Moſs. He counted the Benefit he had receiv'd extraordinary, and having found by many Experiments made there, that the Operation ſtill met with the ſame Succeſs, he wrote a *Treatiſe* of it in *Dutch*, for the Uſe of his Country Men, and ſent over a quantity of the Moſs, and ſome Matches to kindle it with, to his Son at *Utrecht*, to be ſold, if any would be perſuaded to uſe them.

This *Treatiſe*, which has been tranſlated into *Engliſh* near forty Years ago, gives a very particular Account of that Operation, and tells us, that in the *Indies*, they have a ſoft and downy or woolly Subſtance, made by a very skilful Preparation of a certain dried *Herb*, which when rightly prepared is like Cotton, and by them call'd *Moxa*; this Down with their Thumb and Fore-finger they form into a Pellet of the bigneſs of a Pea, but of a Pyramidical Figure. Some put the *Cotton* of the purify'd Herb in a Paper, and roll it with their flat Palm, that ſo the Wool may be cloſe and equally Compact; from which they cut pieces about twice as big as a Writing-Pen: Theſe they lay on the Place affected, (when they have wet it with their *Finger* moiſten'd with their *Spittle*) and with little *Aromatick* Sticks made for that Purpoſe, ſet Fire to them; for the Matter is eaſily Combuſtible, and the *Chinois* carry it about them in Tinder-Boxes. When this little Turret is fir'd, the gentle Flame turns it not all to Aſhes, but leaves a little Segment of it in the Baſe; for tho' the greateſt part of the Moiſture that is drawn out of the ſuffering Place, flies away in fume, yet it is impoſſible but ſome of it muſt be ſuck'd up into the burning Pellet, which ſo moiſtens it, that it cannot be all converted into

Aſhes,

Aſhes, therefore it draws the *Epidermis* with no Violence, nor raiſes any Bliſters, but cauſes only a little grey Spek, tho' the Pellet be divers times ſucceſſively kindled upon the ſame Place. The burning of one Pellet laſts about the time of telling fifty.

After the Operation, they lay a little beaten Leek upon the *Eſchar*, and over that one of the outermoſt Coats of the ſame Leek moiſtened in the Mouth, which like a Plaiſter keeps the beaten Leek upon the *Eſchar:* This being taken off together ſome 24 Hours after, more or leſs, you'll ſee the little *Eſchar* diſpos'd to Separation, appearing to have round about it a Circle of clear Skin, which ſometimes alſo riſes to a Wound or Bliſter. Great Care muſt be taken that no ſevere Means, or any force be uſed to theſe Eſchars; for great Pain may thereby be occaſion'd, and therefore they uſe nothing but warm Plantain-leaves to make the Eſchars fall off, patiently ſtaying till they fall off by that means, and the Part heal up; which is effected by prudent Nature it ſelf if it be for the good of the Part affected: Even when the Eſchar ſeems to be looſe and hangs double in the little Wound it is not to be touch'd, for the longer the Wounds remain open, the greater Benefit they are of; not that they are to be chang'd into Iſſues by putting in Peas or Pellets. They keep them open by laying warm Plantain-leaves upon them with the rough ſide to the Skin. Note, that the Leaves muſt not be warm'd in Water, but by laying them on glowing Wood-coals, where they muſt lie till you ſee them begin to fall in; then they are to be taken off, and roll'd ſtiff together betwixt the Palms of the Hands, and then to be unroll'd again and diſplaced, being yet warm and moiſt, and ſo laid on the Eſchar: continuing this till it be time to heal up the Wound; when the Leaf being prepar'd again after the former manner is to be laid on with the

ſmooth

ſmooth ſide to the Skin: For as the rough ſide of the Leaves keeps open, ſo the other heals the Wound. Freſh Leaves are to be put on twice in 24 Hours, and kept from falling off by ſome Bandage or other; or if the burnt Places cannot endure the Uſe of Bandage, a Plaiſter of *Diapalma* may be laid over the Leaves to keep 'em upon the Eſchar.

Tho' theſe Directions are very plain, no Body ought to undertake this Operation, but ſuch as are well qualified for it. The Operator muſt not be of an unweildy Body, have a good ſight, ſteady and dry, no trembling nor ſweaty Hands, for elſe he will not be able to give the Pellets their due Shape. He ought exactly to know the very Seat of the *Gouty* Pain, without which the Operation is for the moſt part fruitleſs, and if the Application be made but an inch wide from the very Part that is in Pain, it would not have the deſired Effect. Where the Pain is very violent, and the *Gouty* Limb by the afflux'd Humour not much ſwell'd, the Inflammation manifeſtly directs to the very Seat of the Pain; and in this Caſe one may eaſily ſee the genuine *Gout* or Wind Tumour, by taking notice of a little Diſtenſion, and ſtanding out of the Skin, appearing like a ſmall Puſtule; on the extent Head of which the burning is to be perform'd. But as the Seat of the *Gout* is not ſo viſible where Perſons are firſt attack'd with the *Gout*, and thoſe alſo that are ſubject to a great afflux of Humours, it will behove the Operator to be very cautious in finding out the true Seat of the Pain, that ſo he may not put the Patient to unneceſſary Torment. And therefore he muſt with his Forefinger, feel ſo long upon, or about the Place where the Patient complains of moſt Pain, until by the Patient's greateſt Senſe he finds out the true Place; which to avoid all Miſtake, he much touch again

and again and ſo perform the Operation accordingly.

The Preparation of this *Moxa* is kept as a great Secret in the *Indies*, ſays *Buſſchof*, and is not to be made in *Europe*, but might be ſent for by the Directors of the *Eaſt-India* Company out of *China*. The ſame he ſays of the *Aromatick* Sticks, which yield a very pleaſing Smell when kindled. They are very uſeful to keep the Patients and Standers-by, as well as the Operator from the ungrateful and offenſive Smell which the *Gouty* Damps emit, when by the burning *Moxa* they are forc'd to evaporate; eſpecially if it be conſider'd what ill the Smell of ſuch ſtinking Vapours may cauſe in our Bodies.

The beſt *Moxa*, is of a fine grey Colour, well ſcented, and as ſoft as fine Wool; which laſt good Quality is chiefly to be minded, for when it is very ſoft, it is always good, tho' the Colour and Scent ſhould be ſomewhat decay'd; but that which is hard and ſtubborn is unfit for burning.

This is in Subſtance what *Herman Buſſchof* has left us concerning the *Indian Moxa*, and the Operation to be perform'd with it; which has been ſince, for the greateſt part confirm'd by Dr. *Ten-Rhine*, a *Dutch* Phyſician, (of whom likewiſe I have ſpoke before, and) who after long Travels thro' *China* and *Japan*, wrote a *Treatiſe* on the ſame Subject; in which he ſays, That to make the *Moxa*, the *Indians* take the Tops or ſmaller Leaves of Broad-leav'd *Mugwort*; when they are dry they rub 'em, and caſting away the Stalks and other Rubbiſh, keep only the Down for Uſe.

No ſooner was this new Method of Cure publiſh'd, but it was made uſe of by ſeveral Perſons in *England* and *Holland*, not altogether without Succeſs, and among others, Sir *William Temple* when he reſided at the *Hague*, tried the Experiment upon

on himſelf; as may be ſeen in his *Miſcellanies*, p. 209. where he tells us, 'That when the Pain in his 'great Toe was very Violent, and he in five Days 'had not been able to ſtir his Foot, but as it was 'lifted, he was ſuddenly reliev'd by the *Moxa*, 'and walked half a dozen turns about the Room 'without Pain or Trouble, to the great Surprize 'of thoſe that were about him as well as his own. 'As for the Pain (ſays he) of the burning it ſelf, 'the firſt time is ſharp, ſo that a Man may be al-'low'd to complain: I reſolv'd that I would not, 'but that I would count to a certain Number as 'the beſt Meaſure how long it laſted. I told ſix-'ſcore and four as faſt as I could; and when the 'Fire of the *Moxa* was out, all Pain and Burning 'was over. The ſecond time was not near ſo ſharp 'as the firſt, and the third a great deal leſs than 'the ſecond. The Wound was not raw as I ex-'pected, but look'd only ſcorch'd and black; and 'I had rather endure the whole trouble of the 'Operation, than half a quarter of an hours Pain 'in the Degree I felt it the firſt whole Night.

The Gentleman from whom this is tranſcribed, gives an Account alſo how the *Moxa* remov'd a Fit of the *Gout* from Monſieur *Serinchamps*, the Duke of *Lorrain*'s Envoy then at the *Hague*, as likewiſe how, almoſt at the ſame time, one of his Maids, who was almoſt grown deſperate with the Tooth-ach and want of ſleep upon it, had been immediately cured by burning the *Moxa* upon the great Vein, under the Ear. But notwithſtanding thoſe Succeſſes, the *Moxa*, whatever the Reaſon is, has never been in great Eſteem among us: What Dr. *Sydenham* ſaid of it, I think was very judiciouſly ſpoke. 'The burning of the Part affected (ſays 'he) may be uſeful for mitigating the Pain, the 'moſt ſpirituous Part of the Morbifick Matter caſt 'off upon the Joints, being drawn out by it: But

'the Benefit obtain'd by this Means, becauſe it 'does not any way Cure Indigeſtion, the Antece-'dent Cauſe of the *Gout*, muſt needs be very ſhort 'and fading, and to be uſed only when the *Gout* 'is beginning, for when the *Gout*, as it ſometimes 'happens, is turn'd inwards, either by its long 'Continuance, or by an unſeaſonable and undue 'uſe of Medicines, and ſo afflicts the Patient ra-'ther with *Sickneſs*, *Gripes*, and a great many 'other Symptoms of this kind than with Pain, I 'ſuppoſe that no ſober Man will think that Fire 'is to be uſed.

And that the Pain is not always remov'd ſo eaſily as it was in Sir *William Temple*, we may learn from *Herman Buſſchof* himſelf, who ſuffer'd the Burning twenty times before the Pain was gone; and Dr. *Ten Rhine*, who tells us the Burning in weaker Places is commonly reiterated three or four times; but in other Places, if the Patient be ſtrong, and the Vapours lie deep; thirty, nay above fifty times.

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## CHAP. VII.

### *Of Specifick.*

WHen the *Ariſtotelian* and other Schools had for many Ages captivated Man's Underſtanding, and given the Name of *Occult Quality* to every thing that was not obvious to their outward Senſes, nothing certainly could be more charming to Men of Thought and Speculation than the *Carteſian* Philoſophy, which by teaching Men how to form probable Conjectures about every thing obſervable in created Beings, gave them a delectable Inſight into many myſterious Operati-

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ons of Nature. But ſuch is the Condition of Mortals, that in this World there is no Good, but what has its oppoſite Evil; and this *Gayety* of Speculation, as well as *Freedom* of thinking, which ſhould have only put Men upon the Search after Knowledge, the true end of Philoſophy, have inſpir'd many with ſo much Vanity, and ſuch ridiculous Notions of the Strength and Self-ſufficiency of their Reaſon, that forgetting the Shallowneſs of human Capacity, what they could not comprehend, they have often refuſed to admit as Fact, tho' they have ſeen it before their own Eyes.

It is this Self-conceit of Ingenious Men that has made ſo many deny the Exiſtence of *Specifick* Medicines, even whilſt they were receiving the Benefit of them; which made the great *Boyle*, (to humour the Idol of the Age, *Reaſoning*) when he was convinc'd of the certainty of an Experiment, wrack his Invention for Methods after which it was poſſible that Nature might have acted in the Production of it, as knowing that the Speculative World would reliſh no Truth, unleſs it was likewiſe made palatable to their Reaſon.

But tho' the Illuſtrious *Chymiſt* I nam'd, has very ingeniouſly reconcil'd the Exiſtence of *Specificks* to the *Mechanical* and *Corpuſcular* Philoſophy, and thinks that in time the Induſtry and Sagacity of Men, will be able to diſcover *Intelligible* Cauſes of moſt of thoſe Qualities that now paſs for *Occult*, and among them of many of the *Specifick* Virtues aſcrib'd to Medicines; yet on the other hand he fears much, that Men will not be ſucceſsful in tracing out the true and immediate Cauſes of thoſe good Effects of ſome Remedies that depend upon ſuch fine and uncommon Textures, and ſuch latent and odly guided Motions: But whether we can give Reaſons for it or not; it is certain, that *Opium* generally cauſes Sleep; that a few Grains of *Cantharides* inwardly

wardly given, leaving other Parts unmoleſted, work upon the *Bladder* and *Urinary* Paſſages with an uncommon Force; and that the *Peruvian Bark* well adminiſtred, ſeldom fails of Curing intermitting Fevers.

What can be more unfathomable for our Underſtanding, than that a Drachm of ſuch a ſtony Subſtance as *Oſtiocolla* taken at the Mouth, ſhould be of that Efficacy in the breeding of a *Callous* to ſoder together the Parts of a broken Bone? Yet this is ſo well atteſted by daily Experience, and the Writings of Eminent Men, that it would be a Folly to doubt of it. Nay ſo viſible are the Effects of this Stone, that ſeveral, and among them that expert and judicious *Surgeon*, *Fabricius Hildanus*, give us a caution of uſing it but ſparingly in young and vigorous Patients, leſt it breed too great a *Callous*, of which there are ſome notable Inſtances. Now if after all this, a Man ſhould refuſe to adminiſter this Stone to a Patient that wanted it, only becauſe he did not underſtand which way the Medicine could reach the Bones, I think he ought to have his own broke.

'I do not (ſays the Sagacious *Boyle*) by a *Speci-*
'*fick* underſtand a Medicine that will Cure the Diſ-
'eaſe it is good for infallibly and in all Perſons
'that take it, for I confeſs I never yet met with
'any ſuch Remedy. Nor do I by *Specifick* under-
'ſtand a Medicine that, almoſt like a Charm, works
'only by ſome latent and unaccountable Property,
'without the Aſſiſtance of any known Quality; as
'*Purgative*, *Diuretick*, *Sudorifick*, &c. to be found
'in other Medicines; but by *Specifick* I mean in
'this Diſcourſe ſuch a Medicine as very often, if
'not moſt commonly does very conſiderably and
'better than ordinary Medicines, relieve the Pa-
'tient, whether by quite curing, or much leſſen-
'ing his Diſeaſe, and which acts principally upon

'the

'the Account of ſome Property or peculiar Vir-
'tue; ſo that if it has any manifeſt Quality that
'is Friendly, yet the Good it does is greater than
'can reaſonably be aſcrib'd to the Degree it has
'of that manifeſt Quality, as *Hot*, *Cold*, *Bitter*,
'*Sudorifick*, &c.

Others ſpeaking of *Specificks*, ſay, ſuch a one comes under that Denomination, as has a peculiar Virtue againſt ſome one Diſeaſe, and anſwers all Indications of Cure, how differently ſoever circumſtantiated with Symptoms, or how diſguis'd ſoever under the Appearances of other Affects, yet the *Modus agendi* a Secret, as uſually procuring no certain, or ſometimes ſenſible Evacuation of the Morbifick Matter; and that the aſſerting ſuch or ſuch a Medicine Cures *Specifically*, is in truth no more than to ſay, *it does it, becauſe it does it.*

In ſome of the firſt of theſe few Pages, I hinted at a *Liquor* which I have found of ſtupendious Uſe in the Cure of the *Gout*. And having perform'd what I there promis'd, I ſhall now examine whether, according to the Definition, which the noble Author I nam'd laſt gives of *Specificks*, the Medicine I make uſe of may deſervedly claim that Title or not; aſſuring the Reader that I ſhall ſay nothing of it, but what by often reiterated Experiments I have known it to perform.

Every Fit of the *Gout*, is Natures Favour (tho' a bitter one) to the Patient, whereby ſhe critically disburthens her ſelf of thoſe Peccant Humours heap'd up, which if retain'd would be injurious to the Body; but as ſhe can throw them no farther off than to the Extremities of the Joints, where having no Vent, they there diſplay their Tyranny (to much leſs hurt than elſewhere) after a manner the Patient can beſt tell: Now what Medicine will incorporate with, and obtun'd in a friendly way, the Acrimony of thoſe Humours ſo pent in, muſt

neceſ-

neceſſarily appeaſe their raging Impetuoſity; and if properly turn'd into another Channel, and evacuated when ſo diluted and overcome, not fail of bringing that Fit to a Period; which is yet no more than helping Nature to do that, which of her ſelf ſhe is not able to perform either ſo ſurely or ſo quickly. For eaſing the Pains of the *Gout*, ſome are fond of outward Applications, and cry up this or that, as the beſt that can be, but I always caution againſt them, remembring that *Axiom* in Phyſick, *When the Humours do affect a particular Part, the whole of 'em muſt be corrected; elſe by applying a Remedy only to that Part, we ſhall drive the Humours to ſome other Place.*

And again, *We muſt not attempt the remedying of the Joints alone, without taking Care of the whole; but note in general, that Externals often exaſperate the Pain, and make the Malady the greater, although the Symptoms ſeem ſometimes to abate.* We learn likewiſe by frequent Experience, that outward Means have made a fix'd *Gout* of a running one, and ſome of them have generated Knots in the Joints, which made *Galen* himſelf write, (and *Fernelius* has obſerv'd the ſame) *that* Tophi *are produced in the* Gout *from a glutinous and thick Humour, when the ſame is not digeſted by little and little, but dried altogether by the Violence of external Remedies.* The experienc'd *Sydenham* is of the ſame Opinion. *If any one* (ſays he) *enquires for external Remedies to eaſe the Pains of the* Gout, *I hitherto know none, tho' I have try'd many in my ſelf and others, having been afflicted with that Diſtemper near* 34 *Years; therefore let none impoſe upon themſelves that way, for I confidently affirm, that the greateſt part of thoſe who have periſh'd in the* Gout, *have not been ſo properly kill'd by the Diſeaſe, as by improper Applications of external Medicines. And if any one will try by uſing them at the beginning, or progreſs of a Fit* [the time he moſt wants them] *he will*

*ſoon*

*ſoon perceive how fruitleſs they are, and how vain his Hopes.*

Of ſuch Prevalency is this Drink, that no ſooner is the Blood, and conſequently the Humours impregnated with it, but the Patient finds Eaſe: The moſt torturing Pains are alleviated by it in three or four Hours, and the Fit totally remov'd in as few Days. All the ſenſible Operation it has is by Urine, with which the *Gouty* Humours are eliminated, ſo as to be ſenſibly perceiv'd by the Patient while he is drinking it.

It is an acceptable Medicine to take, and far from being nauſeous or diſagreeable to the Stomach, it pleaſingly warms it, ſtrengthens its Tone, defends and frees it from the *Gouty* Aſſaults, creates an Appetite, and helps Digeſtion. Dr. *Sydenham* ſays, 'Whatever aſſiſts Nature in duly performing 'her Offices, whether in comforting the Stomach 'that it may rightly concoct the Food; or the 'Blood, that it may aſſimilate the Chyle unto it; 'or the ſolid Parts, that they may the better con-'vert to their proper Subſtance the Juices deſign'd 'for their Nouriſhment and Increaſe; or whate-'ver preſerves the various Organs of Excretion, 'and the Emunctories of the Body, in ſuch a State 'as that they may be able to diſcharge duly and 'orderly the Excrements of each part, conduce to 'the anſwering the Intention of Cure, be the Me-'thod or Medicine what it will.

Theſe Qualities, or at leaſt moſt of them I am well ſatisfied the Medicine I recommend is endued with; for beſides what I have ſaid of it, it keeps the Body ſoluble, corroborates the Bowels, comforts and ſtrengthens both Brain and Nerves, corrects, tempers, and ſweetens all undue Sharpneſſes of the Blood, preſerves its Texture, and invigorates it when languid; and in fine, as it aſſiſts Nature in every due Secretion, cannot but be friendly

to the *Animal* and *Vital* Functions. Here I expect that the Learned Methodiſt who is frighten'd at the Name of *Specifick*, will tell me that he cannot conceive how a *Diuretick* ſhould have ſo many good Qualities beſides. Him I ſhall anſwer in the Words of the *Experimental Philoſopher* I often mention'd.

'I know, ſays he, there have been and are ſtill '*Dogmatical* Phyſicians, that upon the Principles as 'they pretend of the *School-Philoſophy*, reject all 'Medicinal Virtues that they think not reducible 'to manifeſt Qualities. But of ſuch *Galen* ſome-'where juſtly complains that they deny Matters of 'Fact, or aſſign very incompetent Cauſes of the 'Effects they pretend to explain. And for my part 'I am ſo far from believing theſe Men capable of 'giving ſufficient Reaſons of the more hidden Pro-'perties of Medicines, that I am not apt to think 'them able by their Principles to give clear and 'particular Explications, even of the more eaſie 'and familiar Virtues of Simples.

I do not pretend to trace the Medicine I ſpeak of thro' every Cranny it paſſes, nor to account for every part of its Operation. Yet I muſt ſay, that it ſhould perform what is ſaid of it, is no Myſtery, when the Principles of it are conſider'd and compar'd with thoſe of the Diſeaſe. But it is for this reaſon that I call it a *Specifick:* I am ſatisfied, that the Effects of it are known by many, and ſo well atteſted that the moſt Scrupulous ſhall not be able reaſonably to doubt of it, as I ſhall ſhew hereafter. The Violence of the Pain to thoſe that take it, ſeldom laſts an hour after the firſt two or three Doſes, and if they continue it, no Fit above four Days at furtheſt. What I ſay here, is of them that uſe it whilſt the Fit is upon them. But as the *Gout* generally gives ſome warning of its Approach beforehand, if a Patient be provided with this Medicine and takes it in time, he need never fear a Fit;

don't mean that it will hinder Nature in her kind Intent, (which is ſtopping the Fit, the moſt dangerous Attempt imaginable) but aſſiſt her ſo, as that thoſe very Humours which ſhe is diſcharging her ſelf of, are as faſt as they are ſeparated, turn'd off by Urine, which would otherwiſe ruſh into the Joints; and if by that means the Patient is ſafely ſecur'd from the great Pain and Fatigue the Fit would have occaſion'd, with the ſame or greater Advantage to his Health and Limbs than his enduring it could be to him, I think it is doing him a great piece of Service. Gentlemen when they are at eaſe, can ſeldom be perſuaded to the Uſe of Medicines; but whoever continues this Drink whilſt he is free from the Aſſaults of this Diſtemper, or drinks it but for a certain number of Days, Spring and Fall, ſhall find that the Invaſions of the *Gout*, are not only retarded and kept off, but the rooted Diſpoſition in the Body, tending to breed *Goutiſh* Humours, and a natural Weakneſs of the Joints are gradually and perfectly taken away by it, Dropſical and other concomitant Diſorders from a Blood rendred languid by the Diſeaſe prevented, and a much better and more laſting State of Health and Vigour eſtabliſh'd.

In ſtrong People, and where the *Gout* is recent or of no long ſtanding, what I ſaid laſt will be ſoon perceiv'd: But in thoſe where the Diſtemper is inveterate, and ſeems to convert all the Nouriſhment into the *Gouty* Matter, to have the ſame Effects, longer time is required, and not only a more conſtant Uſe of the Medicine, but likewiſe a regularity in Diet, or at leaſtwiſe Abſtinence from Intemperance are to be complied with; it not being to be ſuppoſed, that when the Diſeaſe is ſo grown to a Habit, the Conſtitution of the Body can be chang'd, and the whole Man renew'd by a ſlight and momentary Alteration of the Blood and

Humours: In theſe antiquated *Gouts* may well be applied, what Sir *William Temple*, who, tho' no profeſs'd Phyſician, was a Man of univerſal Learning as well as ſublime Senſe, thought of the *Gout* in general, *that nothing was ſo proper to Cure it, as what had Power to change the whole Maſs of Blood; and whoever*, ſays he, *thinks of having that done without great Temperance alſo, had better endure it with Patience.* *Rheumatiſms* and wandering *Gouts*, as they proceed in all Probability, from the ſame Cauſe, are eradicated after the ſame manner, without the help of Bleeding that has been fatal to ſo many; it is likewiſe impoſſible but this Drink muſt be of ſingular Uſe in many of thoſe *Symptomatick* and *Anomalous Gouts*, of which Dr. *Muſgrave* has treated ſo largely; becauſe in mixing it ſelf with the Blood and Juices, it attacks where-ever it meets with the Wheyiſh Humour, the *Fomes Morbi*, and waſhing it away by degrees, in time wholly clears the Body from it. I know there are many, who following the vulgar Opinion, that the *Gout* is an incurable Diſtemper, will believe what I ſay is impoſſible: But to convince thoſe Unbelievers, I ſhall once more quote the Noble *Boyle*, that diligent Searcher after Truth, who in his *Experimental Philoſophy* gives us the following Account.

'As incurable a Diſeaſe (ſays he) as the radicated *Gout* is thought to be, (eſpecially in Patients not very temperate) and as tedious a Courſe of Phyſick as one would expect to be requiſite to the Cure of it in caſe it can be Cured; yet I have been ſeveral times viſited by an honeſt Merchant of *Amſterdam*, who was there noted for his Wealth and Skill in *Arte Tinctoriâ*. This Man ten or twelve Years ago, had been for a long time ſo tormented with the *Gout*, both in Hands and Feet, that his Fits would ſometimes vex and confine him for a great part of the Year, and not

'leave

'leave him without Knots, as unwelcome Pledges 'of their Return. But once that he was tortur'd 'to a degree that made him much pitied, one 'came and inform'd him of an *Empirick*, who had 'receiv'd from a great *Chymiſt* that had lodg'd in 'his Houſe, a *Secret*, with which he had already 'thoroughly cured many in a ſhort time; where-'upon ſending for this Perſon, and offering him 'any thing for ſome Relief, the other refuſed to 'take above ten Crowns, which as it ſeems was 'the uſual Rate for the Cure, and would not re-'ceive that neither, till the Reality of it had been 'evinc'd, by the Patients continuing above ſix 'Months well; and accordingly with a very few 'Doſes of a certain *Powder* and *Tincture*, the Mer-'chant was quickly freed, not only from his *Pains*, 'but from his *Gouty Tophi*. And tho' he indulg'd 'himſelf the Drinking of *Rheniſh Wine* very freely, 'yet he never had a Fit ſince, as himſelf aſſur'd 'me one Morning when for Exerciſe ſake he walk-'ed five or ſix Miles to ſee me; adding, that the 'Man that cured him dying ſuddenly, he never 'could diſcover what the *Secret* was wherewith ſo 'many had been freed from a Diſeaſe that does ſo 'often mock the Skill of the greateſt Doctors.

What I promiſe of my Medicine falls far ſhort of this; for what is taken of it whilſt the Patient is afflicted, ſerves only to eaſe the Pain, and remove the preſent Fit; to retard the enſuing Fits, and free the Patients of the *Gouty* Diſpoſition, requires a more reiterated Uſe of it after the Fits are over as well as when the Patients labour under them: Neither have I any Examples yet that it has cured any, where the *Gout* has been ſo knotty and inveterate as that of the *Dutch* Merchant above-mention'd; I mean as to the removing or diſſolving of the *Nodes* themſelves, for I have had Inſtances already, that it has taken off the Fits in

thoſe

thoſe that had *Tophi* equally as in others that had them not; and I do affirm, that thoſe who have the knotty *Gout* already, will not grow worſe, or have more *Tophi*, if they drink my Specifick as directed: I am not ſo vain as to believe that it will feelingly and viſibly diſſolve the *Tophous* Swellings, (which *Willis* ſays, *he that engages to do does but expoſe himſelf*) yet I have good reaſon to think that they will upon a Continuance of drinking it, by degrees waſte and grow leſs; and the more I conſider the Nature of it, the more I am induc'd to hope it may in that particular, upon a ſedulous Uſe of it, do beyond what either my ſelf, or thoſe that ſhall take it may be aware of, eſpecially if Patients would comply with what has been ſaid of Temperance before, and duly conſider what ſo great a Judge in this Diſtemper as Dr. *Sydenham* was, ſaid of it when it was arrived to the higheſt Degree, *viz.* 'Whate-
'ver Method is taken for it, as it is a chronick
'Diſeaſe, whoſe Cauſe having paſs'd into an Ha-
'bit, to the ſubverting and deſtroying the priſtine
'and natural Oeconomy of the Body, eſpecially
'where the Patient hath indulg'd himſelf in Sur-
'feiting and Drunkenneſs, neglected his wonted
'Exerciſes, and is worn out by Sloth and Idleneſs,
'or by hard Study, or continual and intenſe
'Thinking, or by ſome other Errors of Life, muſt
'be uſed conſtantly and daily with the greateſt
'Diligence; for the preternatural Humours that
'are heap'd up, and arriv'd to the higheſt Degree,
'do ſo confound all, ſoften the Fleſh, and weaken
'the Joints, that when they break out, they rea-
'dily receive the Humours that fall on them; and
'that he that endeavours to drive it away by this
'or that Remedy or Regimen now and then uſed,
'labours in vain; becauſe as the Habit is chiefly
'founded, and conſiſts as well in the Weakneſs of
'all the Digeſtions, as in the want of the natural

'Strength

'Strength of the particular Parts, both of them 'muſt be provided againſt, in order to reſtore 'them gradually to their former State; and to 'perform this fully and perfectly, may not ſeem 'poſſible, as any Habit is difficultly changed, eſpe-'cially in old People, yet the Cure is to be endea-'vour'd as much as the Strength and Age will per-'mit, and the nearer or further off from this Mark 'the Patient is, he will more or leſs avoid the 'Tyranny of the *Gout*; nor can this Intention be 'anſwer'd altogether by Medicine, unleſs regard 'be had likewiſe to Diet, and thoſe other things 'call'd Non-Naturals, ſuch Perſons as think it 'may, will be moſt certainly deceiv'd.

But tho' a moſt antiquated *Gout* may perhaps not be remov'd by it, without ſtrict regularity, and almoſt conſtant keeping to it. What I can truſt to, and the Patient may depend upon is this, that whether the *Gout* be inveterate or not, the Medicine will certainly mitigate the Pain, and remove the Fits, and do the ſame thing over and over again whenever they return, whether from a Debauch or otherwiſe, with this Conſolation, that by the Change it every time makes on the Blood and other Juices, the ſucceeding Fits grow ſtill leſs and leſs, as well as return ſeldomer, and the Pains dwindle away without the leaſt detriment to the Conſtitution; and for this Reaſon alone, if it could do nothing elſe, I think it an admirable Remedy, that juſtly deſerves the Name of a *Specifick* in the *Gout*.

The *Peruvian Bark* takes off the Fit of an *Ague*, and if duly repeated, it wholly cures the Patient; but this does not ſecure him for the future; if he gets an *Ague* again, he muſt again take the *Bark*, and it will cure him as before; the ſame I aſſert of my Medicine in the *Gout*; and if one be a *Specifick*, why not the other?

What-

Whatever Man can ſay, nothing is ſo convincing as Matter of Fact, and therefore I would here leave off and refer the Reader to the *Teſtimonies* of thoſe that have tried the Medicine: But that I cannot forbear furniſhing him with one Argument more to ſilence the *ſnarling Methodiſts* that might perſuade him againſt the *Specifick* I recommend. It is nothing but a Quotation from the candid *Sydenham*, who labour'd under this Diſtemper ſo many Years. Having ſaid that he was not poſſeſs'd of any *Specifick* againſt the *Gout*, he tells us: 'Tho', by my 'long Courſe of thinking I am induc'd to believe 'that ſuch a Remedy will be ſome time or other 'found out; and when it happens to be, it will 'expoſe the Ignorance of the *Dogmatical*, and then 'it will appear how much they are deceiv'd in the 'Knowledge of the *Eſſences* of *Diſeaſes*, and in the 'Medicines they uſe for them; a plain Inſtance 'whereof we have in the Diſcovery of the *Peruvian Bark*, the beſt *Specifick* for *Agues*. For how 'many Ages were the Wits of the moſt diligent 'Men exerciſed in finding out the Cauſe of *Agues*, 'whereby every one adapted a Practice beſt agreeing to the *Theory* he had framed? But how thoſe 'ways of Cure were able to defend the *Theorems*, 'is manifeſt from thoſe Things whereof we have 'yet a freſh Remembrance, in which placing the 'various Species of Intermittents, in the various 'Humours abounding in the Body, they were 'wont to direct the Method of Cure to the Alteration and Evacuation of thoſe Humours: But 'how unſucceſsfully they manag'd it, the ill Succeſs of their Endeavours, but eſpecially the happier Uſe of the *Jeſuits Bark* makes manifeſt; by 'the help whereof now, not regarding theſe *Humours*, nor *Diet*, or *Regimen*, by only obſerving 'a due Method of giving the *Bark*, we do the Buſineſs effectually, and ſcarce ever fail, unleſs the

'Sick

'Sick be unneceſſarily kept in Bed whilſt it is 'uſed: Which notwithſtanding that Inconveni-'ence, the Fever being heighten'd by the Heat of 'the Bed, ſo great is the Virtue of the *Bark*, the 'Sick is moſt commonly cured by it.

## CHAP. VIII.

### *Inſtances of Cures perform'd.*

FOR the Good and Benefit of ſuch Perſons as are afflicted with the *Gout*, This is to certify, that I *Peter Varenne*, Bookſeller, at the *Seneca*'s Head near *Somerſet-Houſe* in the *Strand*, was ſeiz'd with an Hereditary *Gout* about the Age of 30, which afflicted me more and more for near 10 Years, and uſed to lay me up for ſeveral Weeks together 8 or 10 times in a Year, without getting any Relief, tho' I tried all that I could hear of, and all to no Purpoſe, rather worſe. About three Years ago I was taken with a very violent Fit, that held me for five Weeks together, ſo that I was not able to ſtir a Limb, or ſuffer ſo much as the Sheet to lye upon them; the Pain and Swelling being ſo very terrible and torturing as almoſt diſtracted me; at laſt I heard of a Drink prepar'd by Mr. *John Marten*, Surgeon, in *Hatton-Garden*, I had it, and drank of it according to his Direction, and in a few Hours it gave me ſuch wonderful Eaſe as cannot be expreſs'd; I could after having drank half the Doſe, ſleep and ſtir my Limbs, and in a few Days after it wholly remov'd the Fit, ſo that nothing remain'd but Weakneſs, by the Humours lying ſo long, which in a little while after came to rights, as that I was able to follow my Buſineſs; ſo that I do really believe the Drink is not to be match'd for its

Excellency, or that any thing in the World can more ſafely and ſpeedily relieve. And at any time when I find the *Gout* is coming I betake my ſelf to the Drink, and the Fit is immediately gone, ſo that I have not had ſince I uſed it what may be call'd a Fit; for before I uſed this Drink, the Pains would fly from Joint to Joint, that if I was eaſed in one Part, I was in Torture in another, and very often in all my Limbs at once, ſo that no Part was free; but ſince my uſing of this Drink; whereever the Pain ſeiz'd me it left me; and I do ſincerely believe, that whoever ſhall take it will never be confin'd a Day with the *Gout*; I knowing ſeveral People that have experienc'd the ſame as well as my ſelf. The Truth of all herein-mention'd, I am ready to teſtify upon Oath, whenever it is needful for any ones Satisfaction, as witneſs my Hand, *November* the 10th, 1712.

*Peter Varenne.*

FOR the good of thoſe alike afflicted, I *John Sayer* of *Bidleſden* in the County of *Bucks*, Eſq; do Certify, That having ſigns of the *Gout*'s coming upon me for about a Week, which grew more and more, till at length I was in great Pain, and could ſcarce ſet my Legs to the Ground without the help of Crutches, that I expected to be laid up for two or three Months together, as I was laſt Fall of the Leaf, and uſed to be twice or thrice in a Year; but being inform'd of the Succeſs of a Drink that Mr. *Marten* in *Hatton-Garden*, Surgeon, gives for the *Gout*, I ſent my Man for it on *Saturday* the 17th of this Inſtant *January*, about Noon, and drank of it as he directed, and had wonderful Eaſe by it before I went that Night to Bed, and ſlept well, which I could not before; the next Day all Pain was gone, and I could walk about my Chamber

Chamber without Crutches, and the Day following I went Abroad, and have had not the leaſt Appearance of a Fit ſince, but been as hearty, lively and brisk, with a good Appetite, *&c.* as ever in my Life, and all owing to that Excellent Drink, which upon all like Occaſions I ſhall never be without: The Truth of which I will at any time make Aſſidavit, as witneſs my Hand this 26th of *January*, 1712-13. *John Sayer.*

*Note*, This Gentleman ſince his giving me this *Certificate*, being unfortunately kill'd; his Footman *James Terry*, that he ſent to me for the Drink, can and will inform any Perſon of its Succeſs, and may be heard of at Mr. *Morgan*'s a Haberdaſher of Small-Ware, at the *Nag's-Head* and *Black-Boy* in the *Old-Baily*, within two or three Doors of *Ludgate-Hill*, where his Maſter lodg'd. Col. *Salisbury* in *Ball-Court* in the *Old-Baily* can alſo teſtify the ſame.

One Mr. *Tho. Bennett* living near the Church at *Greenwich*, a Perſon that I never to my Knowledge ſaw in my Life, ſent me a Letter on *Wedneſday* the 21ſt of *January* laſt, that he was ſeiz'd violently, and (uſing his own Words) to the Purpoſe with the *Gout*; I ſent him my Drink the next Day, which he drank as I directed, and on the 28th following he ſends me another Letter with the Certificate here-under enclos'd. Sir, *I can't but acknowledge that I have found more Benefit by your Drink than by all the Medicines I ever took for theſe* 12 *Years paſt, in its carrying off the Pains of the* Gout, *which are generally with me very violent; it has carry'd off the Pain out of my Stomach*, &c.

THis is to Certify, That I *Thomas Bennett* of *Greenwich* in *Kent*, have been afflicted with a radicated *Gout* many Years, and had very ſevere

Fits thereof, and being lately ſeiz'd with a very violent Fit, which extremely tortur'd me, and affected my Stomach as well as my Joints, and hearing of a Drink prepar'd by Mr. *Marten*, Surgeon in *Hatton Garden*, I had it, which after I had drank of it as he directed, gave me perfect Eaſe in a few Hours, and carry'd away by Urine, the *Gouty* Humour from my Stomach, as well as Joints, that I never met with any Medicine that did me any thing like the Good that it did me, and which I cannot but acknowledge in Juſtice to the Medicine; and hope upon continuing of it, it may in time clear me of the *Gouty* Humour, as witneſs my Hand this 28th of *January*, 1712-13.

*Tho. Bennett.*

FOR publick Good, I *John Noden* in *Richbell Court* in *Red-Lyon-Street* in *Holbourn*, do declare and certify, That I was in violent Torture with the *Gout*, in the great Joint of my great Toe, which was alſo very red and much ſwell'd, and upon my drinking a Liquor I got from one Mr. *Marten* a Surgeon in *Hatton-Garden*, I was perfectly eaſed after a few Doſes drinking it, that the Pain was gone, and the Swelling aſſwaged; and had I not been oblig'd at the fourth Days drinking it to walk abroad about my Affairs, I had ſooner recover'd the full Uſe and Strength of my Foot, and do recommend it as a moſt wonderful Medicine, and declare, that I never could get any thing like it, for I was uſed always to be laid up for Weeks together in great Pain with the *Gout* before I met with this Drink, and now don't expect ever to be laid up a Day, in witneſs whereof I here ſet my Hand the 14th of *January*, 1712-13.

*John Noden.*

On

On *Thurſday* the 13th of *November* laſt, I was ſent for about Noon to one Mr. *Thompſon*, the Maſter of the *George-Inn* in *High-Holbourn*, whom I found in great Pain with the *Gout* in one of his Legs, that had held him ſeveral Days, and not able to ſet it to the Ground; I ſent him my Drink in the Evening, which was as ſoon as I could get it ready, happening then to have none prepar'd. He began to drink of it about eight or nine that Night; I went to ſee him the next Day in the Evening, and found him at Eaſe, playing at Tables by the Fire. He would have paid me for it then, but not willing to hinder him, I bid him let it alone, and I would call a *Monday* following, which I did, and found him below Stairs in the Kitchin, from whence croſs a Yard he came walking to me to the Room behind the Bar, where he paid me for it, and drank part of a Pint of Wine with me.

THis is to Certify thoſe it may concern, That I *Richard Davis*, Butcher at *Cow-Croſs*, was taken on *Wedneſday* being *Chriſtmas-Eve*, with the *Gout* in a moſt miſerable manner, which pain'd me ſo violently in my Legs and one Hand, that I could not help crying and roaring out, the Pain being as if Dogs were gnawing my Fleſh, that I had no reſt Night nor Day, which held me ſo till the *Monday* following, and would in all likelihood have ſo continu'd for Weeks together as it uſed to do, but that being told of a Drink for Cure of the *Gout*, to be had at Mr. *Marten*'s, Surgeon in *Hatton-Garden*, I ſent for it, and began to drink of it that Evening as he directed me, and it gave me entire Eaſe in a very little time, that I ſlept well that Night, and the next Day I was able to walk about.

about the Houſe, and the Day following abroad, as witneſs my Hand the 31ſt of *December*, 1712.

*Richard Davis.*

On the 26th of *November* laſt one Mr. *John Gore*, a Pale-Ale Brewer, at the *Swan-Inn* at *Holbourn-Bridge*, ſent me the following Letter.

SIR,

*THE* Gout *ſeiz'd me on* Monday *laſt in my Elbow, with a Swelling and violent Pain, which is ſomething abated now, and is fallen very much into my Hand, which is uſeleſs, and I begin to feel a little Pain in one of my Knees to Night; about this time laſt Year I had a Fit of it, which laſted till* March, *and I lay a great part of the time in Bed, not having been able to uſe any of my Limbs, for it was in my Hands, Wriſts, Elbows, Knees, and all over me. I have been afflicted with it near 20 Years. If you believe you can relieve me, it will be an Act of Kindneſs to do it, but if you think you cannot, I deſire you'll be plain with me. Sir, I ſhall be grateful to you,* &c.

I went to ſee him, and provided him the Drink, which he paid me for, and by that time he had drank it four Days or leſs, all his Pains had left him, and his Joints more pliable, as he told me at my viſiting him the ſecond time; tho' a very great Weakneſs remain'd by the *Gouty* Humours lying ſo long and ſeverely on his Joints. Upon his Amendment he wrote and ſent me the following Letter.

SIR,

*I Think my ſelf oblig'd in Juſtice to you, and in Charity to the World, to publiſh your Medicine; I'll draw up a Form of a Certificate as ſoon as I get out of my*

*my Bed, and in the beginning, or ſome Day next Week, will make you a Viſit with it.*

I am,

Sir,

Your Humble Servant,

JOHN GORE.

But he being weak by the Diſtemper's lying long on him as aforeſaid, and a Perſon of a very untoward habit of Body, and the *Gout* as inveterate and chronick as moſt known, and never took the Drink for more than four Days, as already ſaid, tho' I advis'd his continuing it longer, which he, to avoid the Charge as he told me ſince, declin'd, has not yet been with me to perform the latter part of his Letter; but to ſhew the Opinion he notwithſtanding retain'd of the Remedy, he ſent me ſoon after a line or two that he will, with this Addition. *Your Drink ſeems to be the moſt rational Method to me of removing the* Gout, *of any thing I have yet uſed, but it is not to be believed that four Days can eradicate a chronick ſtubborn Diſtemper*, &c.

I *Mary Hodgſon* in *Wharton*'s Court, near the end of *Grays-Inn-Lane*, Certify, That a Servant Maid of mine, one *Hannah Smith*, was ſo grievouſly afflicted with the wandring *Gout* or *Rheumatiſm*, that ſhe could not ſtir her Limbs or whole Body if ſhe had been to gain the World, but lay as if ſhe was faſten'd to the Bed, and in ſuch violent wracking Pains, as made her cry out, and was alſo ſo very much ſwell'd in her Limbs, Stomach, and up to her Throat, that we could not tell what to do with her; but remembring to have heard of a *Gout*-Medicine which Mr. *Marten* the Surgeon in *Hatton-Garden*,

*Garden*, had done great Cures with, my Daughter ſent the Maid's Siſter to him, and had it, and by that time ſhe had taken a few Doſes of it, ſhe had ſuch wonderful Eaſe as can ſcarce be believ'd but by thoſe that ſaw its Effects, and alſo could ſtir and uſe her Limbs, which ſhe could not, nor had not done for ſome Days before, as ſeveral beſides my ſelf that were preſent, and were Eye and Ear-Witneſſes of the ſame can teſtifie, as witneſs my Hand this 31ſt of *January*, 1712-13.

*Mary Hodgſon.*

THis is to certify, That I *Gilbert Pincke*, Apothecary in *Leather-lane*, *Holbourn*, have been afflicted with an Hereditary *Gout* for many Years, my Father dying of it; and being taken with a very violent Fit, that pain'd me in a moſt terrible manner in my Knees and right Hand, that I could have no Reſt or Eaſe, and hearing of a *Gout-Drink*, noted for giving preſent Eaſe, that was prepar'd by Mr. *Marten*, Surgeon in *Hatton-Garden*, I ſent my Son a *Sunday* laſt, the 8th of this Inſtant, about Noon, for it, and drank of it, and it gave me wonderful and ſpeedy Eaſe, taking away all my Pains beyond any thing I ever knew or could imagine it poſſible for any Medicine to do in ſo ſhort a time, inſomuch that I really believe it the beſt Remedy that can be for that Purpoſe. for as the *Sunday* before I drank it, I could not ſuffer the leaſt thing to touch me where the Pains lay, nor ſo much as cloſe my Fingers to hold any thing between them, they were ſo ſwell'd and painful, I can now, tho' this is but *Wedneſday*, hold a Pen and write, as witneſs my Hand this 11th of *February*, 1712-13.

*Gilbert Pincke.*

I *Pan-*

I *Randal Mynſhull*, Gent. in *Eagle-ſtreet*, near *Red-Lyon-Square*, hereby acknowledge, That being in a moſt wretched Condition afflicted with the Pains of the *Gout* and *Rheumatiſm*, as not able to ſtir or turn my ſelf in my Bed, without all hopes of help; and being told by a Relation of mine of a Drink which one Mr. *Marten* in *Hatton Garden*, Surgeon, made, that would preſently remove thoſe wracking Pains, I deſir'd him to get it for me on *Monday* laſt, the 9th Inſtant, which he then did, and upon drinking it I found ſuch Eaſe, as I could not expect, conſidering how bad I was, it ſoon taking off all my Pains, and which if I had not had that Drink, in all probability the Pains would have kill'd me, they were ſo very violent, ſo as no Mortal could ſcarce bear them, as witneſs my Hand this 13th of *February*, 1712-13.

*Randal Mynſhull.*

Tho' the aforegoing Certificates, at any time, if requir'd, will be made Affidavits, yet are they but a very ſmall part of the Aſſurances I can produce, and might have added for the Honour of my *Specifick*, as ſtrong and effectual as can be deſir'd, had I like other Surgeons, made my Practice General, and not (as I thought it my Intereſt) confin'd my ſelf almoſt to one Branch alone; which, and the Cenſoriouſneſs of the Age, diſcourag'd them from offering, and me from asking the Liberty; whereby at preſent no mention is to be made of them; beſides, ſhould I have added any more, I might juſtly fear, that conſidering the ſmall Bulk of this *Treatiſe*, the Reader ſhould upbraid me with ſelling him inſtead of a *Book*, a *Catalogue* of *Certificates*

Theſe Inſtances of Cures were all collected within a little time before the *Firſt* Edition of this *Treatiſe*, but ſince that, the Never-failing Efficacy of

this Medicine has been confirm'd by a multitude of Experiments; and I daily receive ſuch undeniable Proofs of Succeſs, in ſo many different Patients, that without being injurious both to my ſelf and the Publick, I cannot omit taking notice of ſome of them. The fearful ſeldom care to venture on new Medicines, and according as People's Habitations and Acquaintance are, they may have different Opportunities of enquiring, ſome of one, ſome of another, into the Effects a Medicine has had upon thoſe that took it, which is certainly the ſureſt way to judge by.

One Mr. *Brome* a Lawyer, at *Burton* upon *Trent* in *Staffordſhire*, ſent for me on the 3d of *March* laſt, he then Lodging at a Grocers, at the *Two Sugar-Loafs* without *Temple-Bar*, he being in moſt wracking Pain with the *Gout* in his Feet and Knees; I gave him my *Specifick*, which he drank as directed, and it ſoon took off his Pain, that in a few Days after he was able to ride home.

Major *Skene* in my Lord *Stair*'s Regiment, living at the upper-end of St. *James*'s *Street*, ſent for me on the 12th of *March* laſt, he being in tormenting Pain with the *Gout* in his Feet: He drank my *Specifick*, and had ſpeedy Eaſe, and recover'd his Strength in a few Days.

Colonel *Mackenzie* in *Prince*'s *Court*, by *Story*'s, *Weſtminſter*, recommended by the aforeſaid Major *Skene*, ſent for me on the 11th of *June* laſt, being in violent Pain with the *Gout* in his Knee and Feet; he drank it, and had Eaſe and Strength to the Admiration of himſelf and Friends that came to viſit him, and ſaid he would ſend for it upon occaſion, if at home in *Scotland*, or elſewhere.

Colonel *Yorren* in *Spring-Garden*, near St. *James*'s *Park*, recommended alſo by Major *Skene*, ſent for me, being in extreme Pain with the *Gout*, on the

20th

20th of *June* last, and would not believe my Medicine would ease him, but upon drinking it he found that quick Relief and Recovery as made him admire, and promise he would proclaim its wonderful Effects where-ever he came.

Mr. *Hyland*, a Tobacco Merchant, at St. *Margaret's Hill* in *Southwark*, was on the 19th of *April* last taken violent Ill with the *Gout* in his Stomach and Head, after the manner he had been afflicted with it sometime before, by means, as his Lady told me, of an External Medicine he was persuaded to use to his Knee that was in Pain with the *Gout*, and was then reliev'd with Difficulty by Dr. *Ratcliff* and Dr. *Cade*, the latter of whom attended him some Weeks. He had at this time the *Gout* also in his left Hand. Upon his drinking my *Specifick* which I sent him about Noon, he was speedily reliev'd; that when I went to visit him, which I did in the Evening, I found him smoaking his Pipe with some Gentlemen, and perfectly easy in his Stomach and Head; the *Gout* from thence being wholly carry'd off, and was as well, excepting the Weakness in his Hand, as ever.

Judge *Coxe* of *Lincoln's-Inn*, a Member of the last Parliament, sent for me at four a-Clock in the Morning, on *Thursday* the 14th of *May* last, being in grievous Torture with the *Gout* in his Feet; He took my Drink as directed, which speedily took off his Pain, and the *Monday* following upon my visiting him again at his finishing the Medicine, I found him walking about his Chambers perfectly well, only a little weak, yet almost able, as he said, to come and see me.

Capt. *Minizes* in *King-street*, near *Golden-Square*, an elderly Gentleman, having been afflicted with the *Gout* for many Years, and in a violent Fit sent for me on the 11th of *May* last. I found him in Bed scarce able to move Hand or Foot; I furnish'd

him with my *Specifick*, which ſpeedily took off his Pains, and releas'd him from his Fit, that in a few Days he got abroad to Admiration.

Mr. *Thomas Eaſtwood* at *Chatham*, belonging to the Queen's Buſineſs there, took the Drink, having been long afflicted with the *Gout*, to a Cripple, with very great Succeſs, has return'd me many thanks in his Letters for it, and recommends it to every Body he hears afflicted.

Mr. *Pain* at the *Wool-Pack* by *Iron-Gate*, near the *Tower*, was cured by it, of the worſt *Rheumatiſm* in all his Limbs, that was, I believe, ever known to afflict any, both with Pain and Swelling, and this without Bleeding, excepting againſt my Will, once a very little Blood was taken from him. He was at divers times dilirious, his Pains were ſo extreme, and in all Probability would have died, but for the Medicine.

Mr. *Serocold* a Drugſter, at the *Queen's-Head* in the *Poultry*, has had at times about 40 Gallons of my *Specifick* for his Friends or Cuſtomers, and I ſuppoſe may be able to give ſome account of its Succeſs in thoſe that took it.

Alſo one Mrs. *Weaver* a Milliner in *Wine-ſtreet*, *Briſtol*, has had at times ſeveral Runlets of it for her Friends, and I preſume may be able to tell what Effects it had, and on whom.

On the 28th of *June* laſt, I was ſent to for a Runlet of it for one *Robert Broke*, Eſq; of *Nackton* near *Ipſwich* in *Suffolk*, which he drank, and ſent me thereupon an Account of its Effects in the following Letter, dated *July* the 4th, 1713. after he had drank it but four Days. *I return you thanks for the great Benefit that I have receiv'd by your* Specifick; *it has freed me from all my Pains and Swellings, that my Joints have not been ſo pliable, nor the Swellings ſo down theſe many Years.* And after requeſting my further Advice as to his drinking it on, *&c.* ſays

thus.

thus. *Before I began your Drink, my great Toe on my left Foot broke and run abundance of Chalk and Chalky Matter; and has now two great Holes in it, but is yet very easy. It is frequent with me to have Sores to break, as in Fingers, Toes, Heels, and bottoms of my Feet, of which I thought proper to acquaint you, by which means I am a perfect Cripple, so that for many Months together I am not able to go or stand, or help my self any more than a Child new born, nor have not for above this twelve Month past set a step without Crutches or being carried,* &c. since that he has wrote in another Letter to me, thus. *Your Medicine I do verily believe to be the best in that kind that ever yet was devised. I have found the greatest Benefit by it of any thing I ever took in my Life; and thank God am now freer from the Distemper than I have been these many Years, and do design to take six Gallons of the same once in two, three or four Months in a Year, which I hope will be sufficient to keep me easy,* &c. *I think (now) I may venture upon your Liniment, which I desire you would send me by the first Opportunity.*

Mr. *Isaac Dighton*, a Brewer in *Lewing's Mead* at *Bristol*, took my Specifick Drink, and wrote me in a Letter, dated the 29th of *June* last, thus. *I had a quantity of your Drink for the* Gout, *some of which I spared to my Friend, who receiv'd very great Benefit by it. The remainder I drank my self according to your Directions. I have been afflicted with the* Gout *these nine Years, and not been able to walk with Crutches for almost two Years, not so much by Defect in my Knees and Feet, as my Loins, Back, and lower part of my Belly, which seem so stuffed with Humours, that I have not been able to put my Hands below my Knees when sitting. My Back and Loins I find much alter'd for the better since I drank your Drink. I fear there's a large Stone in my Bladder, for I brought away the first Week I drank your Diet-Drink, half a dozen small ones. I humbly pray your Advice and Opinion,* &c. *My Friend has made*

*made uſe of the Liniment you preſcrib'd, with Succeſs alſo.*

*Charles Noden*, Eſq; a Juſtice in *Quorum*, living at *Woodmanſturn*, near *Caſhalton* in *Surrey*, had Apprehenſions a Fit of the *Gout* was coming and ſent for my Drink, but before he receiv'd it his Symptoms went off. He kept it by him till he ſhould have occaſion, which happen'd on the 11th of *Auguſt* laſt, when a Fit ſeiz'd him and pain'd him in his Foot violently, that he could not ſleep the firſt Night: The next Morning he began with it, had almoſt preſent Eaſe, the next Night ſlept well, and the next Day or Day after was recover'd beyond what (as he expreſs'd) he thought it poſſible for any Medicine to do.

Mr. *Todd* an Apothecary in *Newgate-market*, ſent for me on the 5th of *March* laſt, being in violent Pain in his Hands, Elbows, Shoulders, and Feet with the *Gout*, not able to move himſelf in his Bed, or ſuffer himſelf to be touch'd, having been afflicted with that Diſtemper many Years, and his whole Conſtitution and Habit perverted by it to a degree almoſt beyond any I have known, and he alſo advanc'd in Years, took my Drink, which reliev'd him ſo, that he recommended it to ſeveral, as well Phyſicians as Patients.

Mr. *Dakin*, Surgeon in *Salisbury Court*, *Fleet-ſtreet*, ſent for me on *Sunday* the 15th of *March* laſt, being grievouſly afflicted with the *Gout* in his Hand, Knees and Feet, his Legs being all ſwell'd with the *Gouty* Humours; he drank 12 Bottles only of my *Specifick* in about four Days, in much leſs time than which the Pain of his Hand was gone, and ſoon after the Swelling in his Legs abated and went off, and he became lightſome and eaſy to his great Satisfaction and Wonder.

Mr. Deputy *Webb* a Drugſter, at the *Red-Croſs* and *Pheaſant*, near *Bow-Church* in *Cheap-ſide*, ſent for me

me on the 11th of *March* laſt. I found him in Bed afflicted with the *Gout* in ſeveral Parts. He took ſome of my Medicine and was reliev'd, tho' he follow'd it not as I directed him, either as to Quantity or Time, as he acknowledg'd to a Friend of mine he ſpoke of it to.

Mr. *Barrett*, the ingenious Organiſt of St. *Mary-Hill-Church*, &c. living in *King-ſtreet*, *Covent-Garden*, a Perſon as grievouſly afflicted with the *Gout*, tho' a young Man, as moſt People I believe known, having ſcarce been able for many Years to walk, at leaſt with any tollerable Pleaſure, ſent for me the beginning of *April* laſt, being in violent Pain. He drank the Drink and had Eaſe, and was recover'd, and has ſince once or twice experienc'd the ſame upon a Fit's approach, which as he now takes the Medicine in time, never troubles him to any thing like a Fit.

But to recite the particular Caſes of every one that has found the good Effects of my Medicine, but ſince the *Firſt* Edition of this *Treatiſe* was Publiſh'd, would ſwell this *Second* to thrice the Bulk intended, therefore I ſhall only relate ſome of the Names of thoſe that have taken it, and leave every one to be inform'd of the Perſons themſelves as to the Succeſs, whether it has not anſwer'd, at leaſtwiſe ſo far as I have affirm'd it may be depended upon, in Page 63 aforegoing, noted in the Margin with a ☞

Mr. *Francis Smith*, a Lawyer at *Uckfield* in *Suſſex*.

Mr. *John Facer*, living at *Rumford* in *Eſſex*.

Mr. *James Fane* of *Rochford* in *Eſſex*, afflicted with the *Gout* for about 30 Years.

Mr. *Ruſſell*, at St. *Edmond's-Bury* in *Suffolk*.

Mr. *William Blake*, a Purſer of a Ship, lodging at the *Flaming-Sword* in *Tower-ſtreet*, near *Barking-Church*.

Mr.

Mr. ——— a Lawyer, that lodg'd at Mr. *Seagers*, a Sail-maker near *Elephant-ſtairs* at *Rotherhithe*, was cured of a very violent Fit of the *Gout* in four Days, as the ſaid Mr. *Seager* can tell, who fetch'd the Drink for him.

The Reverend Mr. *Spratt*, at the Deanery at *Weſtminſter*.

Capt. *Rich. Corbet*, at *Soulton* near *Wem* in *Shropſhire*.

The Reverend Mr. *Millechamp*, at *Great Marlow* in *Buckinghamſhire*.

Mr. *George Stow*, a Merchant at *Berwick*, lodg'd when in Town, at the *Bible* in *Scalding-Alley* near *Stocks-market*.

Sir *Brian Broughton*, at *Broughton* in *Staffordſhire*.

Sir *Samuel Daniel*, near *Red-Lyon-Square*, recommended by Mr. *John Noden*, whoſe Certificate is herein inſerted.

Mr. *Bracebridge*, at *Warwick*.

Capt. *Alex. Gordon*, at *Piccadilly*, Major *Skene*'s Friend, and recommended by him.

Mr. *Phillips*, a Cyder Man, near the Market in *Spittlefields*.

The Reverend Mr. *Lynton*, Rector of *Great Shefford* in *Berks*.

The Reverend Mr. *A. Wharton*, Miniſter of —— in *Surrey*; for his Friend.

Mr. *Edward Chute*, near *Baſingſtoke* in *Hampſhire*.

Mr. *Davis*, a Brewer in *Great Queen-ſtreet*, near *Drury-lane*.

Mr. *Rich. Connopp*, of *Weſt-Lavington* in *Wiltſhire*.

I could ennumerate many more, but if theſe ſhould not be ſufficient or ſatisfactory to any, I doubt it is only to ſuch as have no mind to be ſatisfied at all; and as none are ſo blind as thoſe that will not ſee, ſo none are more difficult of Belief than thoſe who are reſolv'd not to be convinc'd; but as I have already touch'd upon theſe Unbelievers

vers in the *Preface*, and design to speak another Word to them in the *Conclusion*, referring the Reader to both, I shall end this Chapter.

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## CHAP. IX.

### Reasons *à Posteriori.*

THere are abundance of People, who, not being vers'd in Medical Matters, tho' otherwise Persons of very good Sense, entertain that mistaken Notion, that no Body ought to meddle with the Administration of Physick, but such as thoroughly understand the Causes of Distempers; that can trace the Medicines through every part of the Body they pass; and rationally account for every step of the Operation that is seen or expected from them.

To confute so gross an Error, before I came to the Causes of the *Gout*, I thought fit to set forth the Insignificancy of Conjectures, by demonstrating the Vanity of *Hypotheses* in Physick. But tho' I am so much an Enemy to fruitless Speculation *à Priori*, yet when I see a Medicine constantly perform a Cure, and its Efficacy is confirm'd to me by several scores of Proofs, as I am a rational Creature, I would not refuse to enquire into the Essence of the Distemper, and look out for Reasons *à Posteriori*, after what manner it is probable, that such a Medicine Cures such a Distemper.

In order to this, as I hate Reasoning in the Air, I shall confine my self as much as is possible within the Limits of our Senses, and advance nothing touching the Causes of the *Gout*, but what shall be built upon Observations, and chiefly of *Anatomy*; nor make any Conclusions concerning the manner

of Operation of my *Specifick*, but what ſhall be drawn from the Effects I have ſeen of it.

It is generally agreed among the Moderns, that throughout our Bodies, all the Membranes that cover the Muſcles, every where are full of ſmall *Glandules*, thro' which ouzes a Mucilaginous Moiſture: And becauſe it is neceſſary that the Reader, to underſtand what I have to ſay concerning the immediate Cauſe of the *Gout*, ſhould have ſome Knowledge of theſe little Veſſels, and the Glutinous Liquor they contain, I ſhall acquaint him with what has been obſerv'd concerning both, by ſeveral Anatomiſts, and chiefly Dr. *Havers*, whom I mention'd before, when I ſpoke of the *Synovia*, which is another Name likewiſe given to this Mucilage.

The curious *Malpighi* has found out, that ſome Tunicles are wholly *Glandulous*, as the Membrane or *Capſula* of the Heart, the *Peritonæum*, the *Pleura*, and the *Tunica Vaginalis* of the *Teſtes*. After him, others have diſcover'd to us, that there were *Glandules* in the Joints themſelves, and here they are of two ſorts; ſome are ſmall and numerous, which are ſet thick all over the Membrane that immediately covers the Articulation, excepting where there are any large *Glands*, and are all of an equal Magnitude, ſo as to render it every where *Glandulous*. But in ſome Parts of the Membrane, and in the *Sinuſes* of the Bones in the Joints, theſe *Glandules* are ſo conglomerated, as to form remarkable *Glands*. In ſome of the large Joints, there is only one, as in the *Acetabulum* of the Thigh-bone, which is a very conſiderable one; in ſome, as in the Knee, there are four or five. They are ſoft and pappy, but not tender and friable, like the *Glandulous* Subſtance of the Liver, and ſome other *Glands* of the Body, ſo that they are not eaſily broken by a Compreſſion, againſt which Injury, it was neceſſary in their Nature, to fortify and ſe-

cur-

viz.

cure them, becauſe they are ſeated among ſuch Parts as are obdurate, and preſs upon them in their Motion, tho' it be ſo lightly as not to compreſs them. They are, as I ſaid before, Conglomerate, tho' they do not conſiſt of ſeveral *Lobules* or Bags of leſſer *Glandules*, as ſome other *Glands* do, but of ſeveral Membranes ſuperſtrated over one another, ſet thick with ſmall round Bladders, which not only lie Contiguous, but tenaciouſly adhere to one another, as the ſeveral Membranes likewiſe do. By the Pores of theſe little Bladders, the Mucilaginous Liquor is percolated and diſtinguiſh'd from the reſt of the Maſs of Blood, which is convey'd to them by the *Arteries*, and from them it flows into the Interſtices of the Joints, by the excretory Paſſages, which all theſe *Glands* have. The Figure of the Mucilaginous *Glands* is various, and accommodated to the *Sinus* or Cavity in which they are ſeated. Some are not only long, but broad at their *Baſis*, and grow narrow towards the Top, ſo as to terminate in an Edge; ſome have a broad *Baſis*, and riſe into a ſort of a Cone; ſome are like little Ridges; ſome like a *Fimbria*, or Fringe like appearance; ſome are broad and pretty flat.

Thus much for the *Glands:* The Liquor ſeparated by them is a Mucilage, which is almoſt like the White of an Egg, tho' it is not always ſo clear and limpid. It is evidently Saltiſh to the Taſte, and conſiſts of Aqueous, Saline, and Gummous, or ſuch Terreſtrial Parts, as have no Rugoſities, or Unequalities, nor hamous Extremities, ſo that they are apt to ſlip upon one another, but withal they have ſo much of an immediate Contiguity as makes them in ſome degree adhere, which gives them ſomething of a Viſcoſity or Mucilaginous Quality.

This Mucilage is mix'd with an oily Subſtance, *viz.* the Marrow, which thro' the Pores of the

Bones is likewiſe depoſited in the Joints, as is demonſtrated at large by Dr. *Havers*, from whoſe *Oſteologia Nova*, theſe Obſervations are collected. The principal Uſe of this Mixture is to lubricate the Extremities of the Bones, where they are articulated, that every thing about the Joints may be ſlippery, that the Animal may move and manage thoſe Parts, as there ſhall be occaſion, with the greateſt Facility: For tho' the Ends of theſe Bones, which are articulated, are very ſmooth, yet if they were dry, they would not with that eaſe and readineſs obey the commands of thoſe Muſcles which move them; and certainly there is no Liquor, nor any Mixture can be thought of more proper for this End, than this is, where, not only both the Ingredients are of a lubricating Nature; but there is this Advantage from the Compoſition, that they do mutually improve one another; for the Mucilage adds to the Lubricity of the Oil, and the Oil preſerves the Mucilage from Inſpiſſation and contracting a ſizy Conſiſtence. *Secondly*, The Mucilage in Conjunction with the Medullary Oil, preſerves the ends of the Bones which are articulated, from an Incaleſcence, or contracting an inordinate Heat by their Motions, which would otherwiſe be the effect of them, eſpecially when they are very quick and violent, and long continued. It is impoſſible that two Bodies, ſo ſolid as the Bones in ſome Parts are, and the Extremities of thoſe which are articulated, would be without the Benefit of ſuch a Matter, as both mollifies 'em, and intervenes ſo as to keep them from an immediate Contact, ſhould be violently moved and rubb'd one againſt another without creating a great Heat. This every *Coachman*, every *Carman* is ſenſible of, and therefore they have their Oil and Mucilage, a Compoſition, in which they imitate this of Nature; this is a Mixture of Greaſe and Tar, with which they

they beſmear the inſide of the Naves of their Wheels, and the Extremities of the *Axis* upon which they move; without the Benefit of which, the ſwift Rotation of one about the other, produces a Heat, and that ſometimes ſo intenſe as to ſet them on Fire.

*Thirdly*, This Compoſition prevents the Attrition of the Bones, that is, their wearing by rubbing one upon another; for without it, two Bodies of the Nature which Bones are of, being frequently, and as ſome of them often are violently moved one upon another, muſt inevitably be mutually injurious, and ſome of the Parts muſt be worn off on both ſides; notwithſtanding the Exactneſs with which in every Articulation, one Bone is adapted to another.

The Uſefulneſs of this Balſamick Moiſture in the Joints, is likewiſe extended to the Ligaments, which it preſerves from Drineſs and Rigidity; it keeps 'em pliable, and ready to conform to all the Motions and Poſtures of that moveable Part to which they appertain: Nor is it improbable that they are alſo ſerviceable to them for the ſame end as Oil is to Fiddle-ſtrings, which the Muſicians make uſe of to preſerve them from that Aptitude to break, which otherwiſe they will have when they are much extended; for it ſeems to be after the ſame manner that theſe Ligaments are oil'd and moiſten'd with this Mixture of Mucilage and Medullary Oil, to ſecure them from a Diſruption, which as ſtrong as they appear to be, they would, if they were dry, be in danger of, upon a great and ſudden Stretch or Contortion.

From what has been ſaid, may be juſtly inferr'd, that the Mucilage of the *Glandules*, in the common Membrane of the Muſcles and other Parts of the Body mix'd with the Fat, ſeperated every where from the adipoſe *Glands*, muſt have very near the

ſame

ſame effect of oiling and facilitating the Motions of the Muſcles, Tendons, *&c.* which the ſame Mucilage mix'd with Marrow, has of lubricating the Bones and Ligaments in the Joints; as alſo, that whilſt this Mixture of Mucilage and Oil continues in its natural State throughout the Body, all the Motions of Muſcles and Joints may be perform'd with readineſs and eaſe.

When the Reader ſhall have ruminated upon what he has read hitherto, it will not be difficult to dive into the immediate Cauſe of *Gouts* and *Rheumatiſms*, as ſoon as any Heterogeneous Matter can be capable of perverting that Balſamick and lubricating Compoſition we have ſo often mention'd. As to the firſt internal Cauſe, which all Phyſicians have been ſo ſollicitous about, I ſhall ſay nothing of my own Head. In the *Firſt* Place I am not of Opinion that the Knowledge of firſt Cauſes in general, is ſo neceſſary to the Cure of Diſtempers as ſome imagine; if Filth be thrown at my Door, it is very hard I ſhould not be able to remove it, without knowing what brought it there. In the *Second*, I am ſo convinc'd of the Shallowneſs of human Underſtanding, that I can never reflect on the almoſt infinite Diviſibility of Matter, or think how vaſtly remote ſome minute Particles that help to compoſe the Fluids in our Bodies, lie hid from the moſt penetrating of our Senſes, tho' arm'd with all the Helps that human Induſtry has been able to invent, without pitying the Arrogance of thoſe that with certainty pretend to determine any thing about their Contexture.

As to Conjectures, what ſeems the leaſt improbable to me, is that of Dr. *Havers*; he is of Opinion that the Humours whence *Gouts* and *Rheumatiſms* firſt proceed, are a Morbifick Matter firſt contain'd in the Maſs of Blood, and from thence by way of *Criſis*, thrown upon the Mucilaginous *Glands*.

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This he endeavours to prove from the *Febricula* or Feveriſh Indiſpoſition that precedes the *Paroxiſms*, which ſhews (ſays he) that Nature is then diſturb'd and making an attack upon the hoſtile matter. He further urges, that if the Morbifick Matter upon this Fermentation happens to be determin'd to, and thrown upon the *Glandules* of the more noble Parts, ill Conſequences, if not fatal ones, will follow, ſuch as an *Apoplexy*, a *Phthiſis*, an *Aſthma*, or the like. As alſo that the *Gout* never proves Mortal, but when the Matter is tranſlated and fixed upon ſome noble Part; or Nature is tir'd, and ſo languid, that ſhe cannot riſe up againſt her Enemy with ſo much Vigour as to drive it to the extreme Parts.

I ſhall add one Argument more, by which the Author I quote ſtrives to confirm his *Syſtem*, and refer the Reader to him for the reſt. From this Suppoſition, ſays he, ſpeaking of the *Gout* in particular, that the Morbifick Humour is ſeparated by the Mucilaginous *Glands* of the Joints, and the Tendons which lie near them, we may eaſily ſatisfy our ſelves, why the *Gout* does invade thoſe Parts which we find to be obnoxious to it. As for the *Sciatica* or *Hip-Gout*, I have taken notice, that the Mucilaginous *Gland* of the *Acetabulum* of the *Coxendix*, is one of the largeſt of the ſort in the whole Body, ſo that it is no wonder that the Humour is excerned, and thrown into the Cavity by it, and excites ſuch Symptoms as we find there. In the Hands are not only conſiderable *Glands* in all the Joints, but the Tendons which are there inſerted, eſpecially thoſe of the *Muſculi perforantes*, have their Mucilaginous *Glands*, ſo that Nature has a Convenience in theſe Parts, to depurate the Maſs of Blood, and they muſt receive the Morbifick Matter, when the Blood in its Circulation obtrudes it upon them, and the *Glands* are diſpos'd to ſeparate it. The

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ſame thing I might obſerve of the Shoulders, and of the Knees: But of all the Parts, none are ſo frequently afflicted with this Diſeaſe as the Feet; and it is plain why they are ſo, for beſides that they have many Mucilaginous *Glands* in their Joints, and others about the Tendons, which are inſerted into their Bones, as the great Chord or Tendon of the Muſcles which extend the Foot, and thoſe of the *Perforantes*, I ſay beſides this, they are the inferior and pendulous Parts, ſo that as their *Glands* make them capable of entertaining, ſo their Situation does conſpire with the Effort of Nature to bring down the Morbifick Matter into them.

Tho' theſe Obſervations may render the Author's *Hypotheſis* very plauſible, I am far from agreeing to ſeveral of the Conjectures he raiſes from them. But let others who can Cure the *Gout* at once, ſo that it never ſhall return, employ themſelves in finding out the firſt Cauſes of it *à Poſteriori*. I who only pretend to free Mortals from Pain, and either remove the *Paroxiſm* when it is already begun, or prevent its coming at the time that Nature is labouring to produce it, ſhall humbly content my ſelf, with having ſufficiently detected the nearer and immediately efficient Cauſe of the *Gout*; and of this I ſhall endeavour to give as rational Account, as is poſſible, of things that cannot be expos'd to our Senſes.

Not to diſpute then, whether the Peccant Matter that is thrown upon the Joints, be a *Vapour*, as one would judge from the Cure by the *Moxa*; or a *Humour*, which is a Vapour condenſed; or, if a *Humour*, whether it be a *Vitriolick Acid*, as is ſtill the Opinion of moſt Phyſicians, or the very contrary to that, *viz.* a *Cauſtick Alkali*, as *Colbatch* will have it; or laſtly, that the noxious Quality of it, conſiſts in ſomething elſe which we don't know, and perhaps have no Name for, as is moſt probable;

ble; which of them ſoever it be, it matters not, as it is capable of coagulating, or but incraſſating the Mucilage that lubricates the Joints, and pervert it from its Balſamick Nature and incomparable Smoothneſs, it is impoſſible if we reflect firſt on the Senſibility, and ſecondly on the cloſe Contiguity of thoſe Parts, but it muſt at once create Pain, and obſtruct the Motion of the Joint which it invades. If the Greaſe that is uſed about the Wheels of *Carts* and *Coaches*, of which I ſpoke before, was to be inſpiſſated, and only part of it turn'd into a gritty or chalky Subſtance, the Wheels would go round very heavily at firſt, and at laſt not at all; and if by ſuperiour Force, this Obſtruction was overcome, and the Wheels were turn'd round by main Strength, the Conſequence would be, that the *Naves* of them, as well as the *Axis*, would be every where ſcratch'd, and in many Places grated and cut.

It is manifeſt from Anatomy, that the Membranes in which the Mucilaginous *Glands* are contain'd, are ſo admirably contriv'd about the Joints, that upon every Movement of the Joint, the *Glandules* receive a gentle Preſſure, by which a Portion of the Mucilage is ſqueez'd out; from hence it follows, that the more Motion we make, the more of the Mucilage that facilitates it, is likewiſe produced. But it is likewiſe manifeſt, that as the greateſt part of this Mucilage is generated by the Motion of the Joint, which ſqueezes it out of the *Glandules*, ſo by the ſame Motion and the Heat of it, it is firſt diſpers'd and wore, and at laſt evaporated and deſtroy'd. Therefore *Carts* and *Coaches* which have no ſuch Supply from Nature, the more they are uſed, the ſooner they want Greaſing; a plain Demonſtration, that the Greaſe in Wheels, and the Mucilage in the Joints are both conſum'd by Motion.

From the aboveſaid Premiſſes, we may ſafely conclude, that as long as the Mucilage continues in its natural Balſamick State and due Conſiſtence, it can never be wanting or ſuperabound. But in a morbid State, when by the Peccant Matter, the Mucilage is rendred thick and ſharp, and will not ſuffer the Joint to be ſtir'd, it is very reaſonable to think, that in tract of time, where there is no Motion to diſperſe and wear out the Mucilage, greater Quantities of it muſt be made than the affected Joint can contain: For tho' as I have ſaid before, the Production of the greateſt part of the Mucilage, be owing to the Movement of the Joint; yet it is not to be conceiv'd, that tho' the Motion ceaſes, the Secretion from the *Glands*, ſhould likewiſe totally ceaſe.

From what has been ſaid, it evidently appears, which way the *Tophi* are bred in the ſevere and more laſting Fits of the *Gout*; for it is next to Demonſtration, that where the *Coagulum* is great, and the Joint has been long depriv'd of Motion, the indurated Mucilage muſt by a conſtant Protruſion, from what the *Glands* continually, tho' in ſmall Quantities emit, be forc'd thro' *Ligaments*, *Tendons*, *Skin*, and every thing that can leſs reſiſt it than *Bone*: And by this *Syſtem*, which is more built upon *Reaſon* and *Experience*, than *Conjecture*, there is no great Difficulty to ſolve, not only all the Symptoms of the *Gout*, but likewiſe the manner after which the Fits are ſafely remov'd by my *Specifick*. For if there can be a Medicine, (which I am ſure is not to be diſprov'd) that is wholly inoffenſive to the Body, and only oppoſite or deſtructive to the Morbifick Matter that is the firſt internal Cauſe of the *Gout*, it is eaſy to conceive how part of ſuch a Medicine, eſpecially if it be a Liquid that is copiouſly drank, may reach the utmoſt receſſes of the Body; neither is it difficult to imagine, that having mixt it ſelf with

with the offending Humour, (whatſoever that be) it ſhould carry off ſome of thoſe noxious Particles, and being continu'd for ſeveral Days, by little and little, rid the diſtemper'd Mucilage of the Morbifick Matter.

Having prov'd that there may be a Medicine to remove the noxious Particles that bring on and compoſe the *Paroxyſm*, I ſhall now demonſtrate, that the *Specifick* I uſe, is ſuch a one; which can not be done but by arguing *à Poſteriori*, from the conſtant Effects it has in carrying off the Peccant Matter whereſoever it is lodg'd: For whether it is caſt upon the Mucilaginous *Glands* of the common Membrane of the Muſcles, or the ſame *Glands* in any of the Joints; that is, whether it produces a *Rheumatiſm* or a *Gout*; the Medicine infallibly takes off the Pain in either; and when by prepoſterous Remedies, or the Imbecillity of Nature, not being able to fling the hoſtile Particles off farther, they are thrown upon the Stomach, Bowels, *&c.* it brings the ſame Relief to the Part affected, as may be ſeen in a Caſe Page 75 aforegoing. Nay it is of the ſame Efficacy in the Blood, when the *Heterogeneous* Particles are yet mixt with the whole Maſs; to prove this, let any one that has had the *Gout* before, when by the uſual Symptoms, as the encreaſe of Appetite, Indigeſtion, Wind, *&c.* he receives warning of its Approach, before yet the Morbifick Matter is thrown upon the Extremities, or other Parts where they create Pain; let ſuch a one I ſay, take a due quantity of the *Liquor*, and he'll certainly eſcape the Fit, which otherwiſe would have come upon him, as numbers already have experienc'd: And that it operates by expelling the Matter, is beyond Controverſy; for if it was only lock'd up, and ſtill ſome where detain'd within the Body, it would in a little time manifeſt it ſelf by thoſe Symptoms which conſtantly appear when the

*Gout* is repell'd by external Applications, the Uſe of *Opiates*, and other prepoſterous Methods.

I doubt not but it will be objected, that as it is the Opinion of Phyſicians in general, that what cauſes the *Gout* in one Perſon, is quite different from what cauſes it in another, it is impoſſible that one and the ſame Remedy ſhould remove two contrary Cauſes. I have ſuch a difference for Men of Letters, that I ſhould never dare to contradict this *Hypotheſis* by arguing *à priori*; but when I ſee the ſame Medicine have the good effect upon all Perſons, of all Conſtitutions, let the Cauſe be what it will, I think I have abundance of Reaſon *à Poſteriori*, to conclude that this *Hypotheſis* is falſe. Dr. *Havers* ſays, that the Humours which cauſe *Gouts* and *Rheumatiſms* are of three ſorts. 'Sometimes '(ſays he) the Cauſe is Acrious and more Subtile, 'and of ſuch a Nature, that tho' it procures an 'acute Pain, and is almoſt intollerable to the ſen-'ſible Fibres, yet it does not coagulate, nor in-'ſpiſſate the Mucilage. Sometimes the Matter is 'Saline, where, tho' the fixt Salt may a little in-'ſpiſſate the Mucilaginous Liquor, yet it does not 'give it ſuch a Conſiſtence as makes it certainly 'and pertinaciouſly fix. But then *Thirdly*, it is 'ſometimes, and moſt commonly an *Acid:* In 'which Caſe, tho' the Matter whilſt it is in the 'Maſs of Blood, be not thick and glutinous, yet 'when it comes to be ſeparated from the Sangui-'neous Maſs, and to be mixt with the Mucilage in 'thoſe Parts, it coagulates, and makes it a ſort of 'a Jelly.

I ſhall always reckon my ſelf infinitely oblig'd to Phyſicians, for every *Obſervation* they furniſh me with, but I won't ſo much as thank them, for a thouſand of their *Conjectures*. Moſt People that have Money, in every Diſtemper, the *Gout* not excepted, ſend for a Phyſician: And if in the Diſeaſe

I named,

I named, they find by Chance any relief, or the Fit, by ſome Accident or other, goes off ſooner than ordinary, the Succeſs is preſently aſcrib'd to the Method that has been taken; but if the ſame Method be uſed in vain to another Patient, the Phyſician, (who hit or miſs is to give a plauſible reaſon for what he does) judiciouſly concludes, that the Cauſe of the *Gout* in the firſt Patient, differ'd very much from that which cauſed it in the latter; becauſe otherwiſe the Succeſs would have been the ſame. I confeſs the Concluſion is very juſt; but if the Difference of Cauſes was always to be multiplied where there is the ſame Reaſon, I appeal to every candid Phyſician who has treated many Patients in the *Gout*, whether an ordinary Capacity might not with moderate Labour, raiſe the Number of Cauſes with abundance of Juſtice, from three, to three and twenty.

But to ſhew that this is not an injurious Calumny thrown on the venerable Body of ſo many Learned Men, I ſhall conclude this Chapter, with an Inſtance that ſhall illuſtrate what I have ſaid, and which has been hinted at already in a Quotation from *Sydenham*.

Fifty years ago it was the receiv'd Opinion of the Schools, that the Peccant Humour that produced *Tertian Agues*, was the Bile or Gall, and that the *Atra Bilis* or Melancholy, was the only Cauſe of *Quartans*, yet no Body knew how to cure either of them with any certainty. They had their diſtinct Purges for every Humour, and whoſoever would at that time have adminiſtred in a *Quartan*, what had cured a *Tertian*, would have been counted a ſilly Fellow: But as ſoon as the *Bark* was found to be a *Specifick*, that well adminiſtred, cured promiſcuouſly all intermitting Fevers, it was plain, that the different Humours cauſing (as they thought) the difference of the Types and Periods

of

of *Agues*, were lodg'd no where but in the ſpeculative Brains of their wiſe Inventors.

## CHAP. X.

### *The Concluſion.*

AS there is no doubt but that every Fit of the *Gout* is produced from the critical Excluſion of Morbifick Particles from the Maſs of Blood, and their Separation by the Mucilaginous *Glands*, ſo we may eaſily apprehend how the *Paroxyſms* of it may be, as they are commonly eſteem'd a Preſervation of the Patient's Life, and a Security againſt violent *Fevers*, and any other more fatal Diſtempers, as they depurate the Maſs from thoſe Fæculencies, which if Nature had not this ready and eaſy way to caſt them out of the Sanguineous Maſs, would produce ſuch a Diſorder, and excite ſuch a violent Fermentation as makes a *Fever*.

If we reflect on the kind Deſign, and the real Benefit that accrues from this wholeſome Severity of Nature, nothing will appear to us more viſibly pernicious and deſtructive to Health, than ſuch Medicines, that by hindring the *Criſis*, keep the noxious Matter mixt with the Maſs of Blood, and lock up the Enemy within the very Seat of Life; as has been often experienc'd to the Deſtruction of many. It is this Conſideration, together with the infinite Diſſentions and fluctuating Uncertainties of Phyſicians in this Diſtemper, both as to the Cauſes and the Method of curing it, which have all along deterred ſo many Men of Senſe from the Uſe of all Medicines whatever in this cruel Diſtemper, and made the wiſeſt conclude with the Victorious *Charles* the *Fifth*, who was likewiſe conquer'd by it,

it, that the beſt Medicines for the *Gout*, were to WEEP and to SUFFER.

I cannot blame Men for being cautious, but yet I would have them uſe their Reaſon, and believe their Eyes. Where was there ever a Medicine that like mine in ſo ſhort a time has given relief to ſo many? The greateſt part of thoſe that have taken it, live either in or near this great City: The Truth muſt be ſoon diſcover'd, if Men will but give themſelves the trouble of enquiring. The Medicine I adminiſter does never prevent, but viſibly forwards the Salubrious *Criſis*, and far from ſtopping up the offending Particles promotes, their Separation from the Maſs of Blood, and brings about their Expulſion after a more ſafe, a more eaſy, and more expeditious way, than unaſſiſted Nature is able to perform it.

That the *Gout* often prevents fatal Diſtempers in thoſe that are ſubject to it, is not becauſe it pains; but becauſe the Blood of thoſe People has an aptitude of ſeparating from its Maſs, the noxious Particles that enter it: Then who would not to compaſs the ſame ends, prefer a harmleſs Medicine to a tormenting Diſeaſe? Beſides that, whatever ſome People may imagine, the *Gout* does not preſerve the Patient with half the certainty, whilſt his Youth and Vigour remain, that it kills him with when his Strength is gone. But ſuppoſe the *Gout* could prolong Life equally as well as the Medicine, are not Eaſe and a ſound Body, to be had on the ſame Terms, preferable to Miſery and decrepid Limbs?

But I ought not to expect that the Multitude of Cures perform'd on others, ſhould remove the Prejudice of ſome People, when I have ſeen thoſe themſelves that uſed the Medicine frighten'd at what ought to have encourag'd them the moſt, *viz. the ſudden and ſurprizing Eaſe they receiv'd upon the taking*

*king of it.* A Gentleman who has been named in the Eighth Chapter, found the greateſt Eaſe by it from the moſt tormenting Pain poſſible, in an hours time after he began to drink it; and telling his Friends that came to viſit him, with a great deal of Pleaſure, the relief he had found. They replied, it might be ſo, but what would be the Sequel? Which put the Gentleman in ſo great a fright, that he almoſt wiſh'd for his Pain again, and ſent for me in haſte to be ſatisfied.

Nothing is a greater Enemy to Sleep than Pain, which when it is exquiſite, will, as many know too well to their Sorrow, keep People awake for ſeveral Nights and Days together, and as the Effect always ceaſes as ſoon as the Cauſe is remov'd, ſo it is not difficult to conceive how a long-wiſh'd-for Eaſe, as ſoon as the Medicine begins to ſoften and dilute the rigid and excruciating Particles in the Joints, muſt caſt the Patients into ſweet Sleeps, which Torments and Toſſings had till then prevented. This great Benefit has likewiſe been conſtrued to the Diſadvantage of the *Specifick*, and it has been ſuggeſted, that becauſe it procures Reſt, it muſt needs be an *Opiate*; tho' I declare ſolemnly, as I ſhall always be ready to make Oath, not only that no *Opium*, but likewiſe nothing made of *Papaver*, nor any other *Narcotick* whatever, directly or indirectly enters the Compoſition of it. But this Proffer, and all Apologies would be ſuperfluous, if Men would uſe their Reaſon, and compare the Effects of *Opium* to thoſe of my *Specifick*. *Opium*, which benumbs the Senſes, keeps off the Pains no longer than the ſtupifying Quality of it laſts, but when that is wore off, they return with greater Violence, and the *Gouty* Matter after the Uſe of it, is more pertinaciouſly fix'd than before. The Medicine on the contrary gives no Eaſe but what is hourly encreas'd, till the offending Particles

that

that made the Fit, are totally conquer'd and expell'd.

Thoſe that pretend duely to take this Medicine, are oblig'd to conſume 12 Quarts of it in four Days at the furtheſt, which is a greater quantity of Liquor than the generality of People are uſed to drink in that time; and as it is known to a Proverb, too vulgar to be repeated, that all Drinkables in general prove Diuretick when copiouſly drank, ſo it would be very ſtrange if People whilſt they are taking this Medicine, ſhould not void greater quantities of Urine than they do at other times. Yet even this has alarm'd ſome fearful People, and what is an ineſtimable Quality in ſo efficacious a Medicine, its operating by the moſt innocent and leaſt troubleſome of all Evacuations, has hindred ſeveral from taking it under the frightful Notion, that if it Cures the *Gout*, it will bring a *Diabetes*. The ſhorteſt Anſwer to this Objection would be, that it has yet never done ſo in any that have taken it. But whoever examines into what cauſes a *Diabetes*, and likewiſe reflects on the Effects of my *Specifick*, ſhall eaſily find how groundleſs thoſe Fears are. As to the *Diabetes*, which chiefly conſiſts in a Diſſolution and broken Contexture of the Maſs of Blood, *Aretæus* has obſerv'd of it many Ages ago, that ſometimes the Patients made no more Water than ordinary, tho' all the reſt of the Symptoms were at the greateſt height; from which the Learned Dr. *Liſter* has concluded, that the frequent voiding of Urine was no *Pathognomonick* Sign that always appear'd in this Diſtemper. The Medicine on the other Hand helps to ſeparate, and expels from the Blood by its *Specifick* Virtue all ſuch offenſive and heterogeneous Particles as might conduce to the Deſtruction of its *Craſis*, and is conſequently more like to Prevent or Cure than cauſe a *Diabetes*. Beſides that, how freely ſoever

this Drink paſſes thro' the Body during the taking of it, yet as ſoon as the Patient leaves off drinking it, the Operation by Urine ceaſes, (as every Body that has us'd it can teſtify) and he makes afterwards no more than before he took it.

Theſe are the chief Objections that have been rais'd againſt the *Specifick*, tho' as People are fanciful they may be multiplied *in infinitum*; one Gentleman who was wonderfully reliev'd by it, complain'd that it affected his Head. Another that it made him a little ſickiſh. And a third, that it gave him the Heart-burn: Which are all the ill Conſequences I ever heard from it; tho' each of theſe Complaints ſoon ceas'd as the Patients went on with the drinking of the Liquor, and not one of them has been made by two different Perſons; which ſhews, that conſidering the different Conſtitutions of Bodies, and the various Humours that may prevail in them, thoſe chance Complaints ought not to be laid to the Medicines Charge. Beſides, one would think that Men in Pain ſhould overlook thoſe Trifles, and count ſuch ſmall Inconveniencies, were they really to come upon them, of little Moment, in compariſon to the excruciating Torments from which the *Specifick* is to deliver them. But Prejudices in ſome People are unconquerable tho' they ſuffer by them. How often do we hear that this or that great Man ſo uſeful in his Station, as not to be ſpar'd the time of the *Gouts* Impriſonment, has been ſeverely laid up by it for Months together? I confeſs that I have often fretted to hear ſuch neceſſary Men ſhould upon ſuch trifling Grounds, refuſe to have Eaſe, which in ſo little a Space of time I could procure them, with more Safety and Advantage to their Health and Limbs, than wait the Leiſure of unaſſiſted Nature; and I cannot without the utmoſt concern reflect on the Loſs that may yet be ſuſtain'd, (perhaps

haps by the whole Nation) from that miſtaken Notion, *that in the* Gout, *no Eaſe is to be purchas'd but at the Hazard of Health:* For how great a Benefit of Nature ſoever the *Gout* may be deem'd to be, it is certain, that at the beſt, one Days Pain weakens and hurts the *Ligaments* and *Nerves* of the Joints, and wears out the Body's Strength more, than ſix Days eaſe will recover. Perſons of the higheſt Quality, I know are ſeldom of the firſt that make Trials of this Nature; and ſo it is no wonder I have yet none of their Teſtimonies; but as there is no reaſon but the Medicine will have the ſame Effects upon them as upon others, I make no doubt, when they come to be convinc'd of its univerſal Succeſs, but they will eſteem it a Service to themſelves, as I ſhall an Honour to me, to make uſe of it, and likewiſe for publick Good, proclaim it; and ſo well am I aſſur'd of the Safety and Certainty of the Remedy, that I dare pawn my Life if one in a thouſand be diſappointed by it; and when thro' Prejudices and Objections, it ſhall have pav'd its own way, and come to be univerſally known, I ſhall have no occaſion to ſay any more of the *Specifick*, or the *Gout* either, according to the old *Latin* Proverb, *Ubi rerum Teſtimonia adſunt non opus eſt verbis. Where Matter of Fact ſpeaks there is no need of Words.* This puts me in mind of the Story of our famous Sir *Robert Talbor*, with which I'll diſmiſs the Reader. *Talbor*, who was Servant to an *Apothecary* in *Cambridge*, having learned the Uſe of the *Jeſuits Bark* came up to *London*, where not finding ſufficient Encouragement, and his Authority not being great enough to give Credit to the Remedy, he travels into *Kent*, and there from Town to Town Cures all ſorts of *Agues*, by which having got Money, and Aſſurance of the Efficacy of the Remedy, he returns to *London*, and ſets up by the Name of Dr. *Talbor*. At firſt he was loaded

with the infamous Name of *Quack*, but ſo great was his Succeſs, that he ſeldom fail'd of Curing all he undertook. At length he was ſent for to *Court*, gave his Medicine to King *Charles* II. and was by him Knighted. He liv'd as great as any Man, kept open Houſe, and Eat in gilt Plate, yet to do him right, he was eaſie enough to Poor or ordinary People, but the Rich he made to pay for it; and had he been ſo cunning as to have conceal'd his Medicine, he might have had an Eſtate almoſt equal to a *Prince*: But it coming to the Knowledge of our Phyſicians, and they falling into the Uſe of it, put ſome Check to his extraordinary Buſineſs; whereupon he goes to *France*, where *Agues* were then *Epidemick*, and having likewiſe cured abundance of People there, he was at laſt ſent for to Perſons of the higheſt Rank, and had equal Succeſs, Curing (as Mr. *Peter* the Surgeon tells us in his Account of the *Jeſuits Bark*, from whence I took part of this Story) the *Prince* of *Conde* and others of the Blood Royal of *France*, and was largely rewarded, having a thouſand Piſtols given him for one Cure; inſomuch that the *King* himſelf being likewiſe ſeiz'd with an *Ague*, ſeem'd enclin'd to make uſe of *Talbor*'s Medicine; but that his Phyſicians pretending a wonderful Care for his *Majeſty*'s Life, ſtrenuouſly oppos'd it with all the Rhetorick and Intereſt they were Maſters of. The *King* in the mean time very much tir'd with his ſhaking Companion, and ſeeing every Body cured whom *Talbor* undertook, appoints an Interview between his Phyſicians and the Foreigner, and being reſolv'd to know the Reaſons why he might not be cured as well as others, orders that the Matter ſhould be diſcuſs'd in his Preſence. Accordingly they met, and to begin methodically with the Definition of the Diſtemper, one of the Phyſicians, thinking afterwards to come gradually nearer to the Point,

ask'd

ask'd *Talbor*, *What is an Ague? Talbor*, who knew little of Phyſick, but was ſure of his Medicine, to prevent all future Queſtions, anſwer'd very conciſely. *An Ague is a Diſtemper, which I can Cure and you can't.* The Phyſicians look'd upon one another, the *King* laugh'd heartily, took *Talbor*'s Medicine, and to the great Mortification of the whole Faculty of Phyſick, was Cured, as others had been before him; which great Succeſſes, and ſelling his Medicine to the King of *France* for a great Sum of Money, made him ſo hated by the *French* Phyſicians, that the *King* allow'd him a Guard, a *Swiſs* being continually at his Door. He liv'd ſome Years in *France* very profuſely, and at laſt died there, not without Suſpicion of being *Poiſon'd.*

I don't believe that *Envy* and *Malice* attend leſs on worthy Performances now than in *Talbor*'s Time: But to leave as little room for *Doubts* and *Detraction* as is poſſible, I ſhall conclude with this *Notice* to the Publick, *That wherever there is a Patient or Patients labouring under the moſt exquiſite Torments of the* Gout, *if he or they make uſe of my* Specifick, *I proffer to ſit by, and attend the Operation of the Medicine; ſo that every Phyſician, and every Patient that queſtions the Truth of what I have here aſſerted, may ſee it confirm'd in few Hours, or at leaſt have the Pleaſure of Laughing at me for a* poſitive Coxcomb *that pretends to more than he can perform. And till ſuch Tryal or Tryals are made, it will be ungenerous in any, either to decry or diſpiſe it.*

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FINIS.

## *DIRECTIONS for the drinking the* Specifick *Drink for the* Gout.

1*ſt*. TWelve Quarts of it, I have generally found ſufficient to eaſe the moſt vehement Pain, and remove the ſevereſt Fit, whether Hereditary or Adventitious; but leſs than that Quantity, I will not undertake ſhall make that needful Alteration on the Blood and Humours to do it in all, at leaſtwiſe ſo ſoon or ſo effectually, tho' I can't but ſay it has done it in ſome..

2*d*. A Pint of it is the leaſt Doſe to be drank at a time, which muſt be repeated every Hour, or every two Hours at fartheſt, and that in the Night as well as Day-time, in caſe you cannot ſleep for Pain, but if you can, you are not to be awak'd to drink it.

3*d*. Where the Pain is very exquiſite and inſupportable, ſuch as can, may drink more than a Pint every Hour, or every two Hours; for the faſter it is drank (and it cannot then be drank too faſt) the faſter it dilutes and leads away the *Gouty* Humours, and conſequently the ſooner you will have eaſe and be well, as will be perceiv'd by the Pains gradually leſſening as you are drinking it.

4*th*. In four Days at moſt the whole 12 Quarts of it muſt be drank off, and if in three Days, or leſs, where the Pain is very outragious, the better, for the Reaſons aforeſaid; but yet where the Pain is mild, or the Stomach ſo very weak or ſqueamiſh, as that it cannot poſſibly bear the drinking it ſo freely, it may be drank ſlower, and in leſſer Draughts, which will eaſe the Pain, and remove the Fit, as *ſurely*, tho' not ſo *quickly* as when it is drank faſter.

5*th*. It

5*th*. It is to be drank Cold by thoſe that are uſed to, or can bear the drinking their Liquors Cold; but thoſe that cannot, may drink it a very little warm'd, eſpecially if the Seaſon ſhould happen to be rigorous, or they ſhould find it to lie cold at the Stomach, which I think can hardly be, it being prepar'd with one third part of Wine.

6*th*. Whilſt you are drinking it, you muſt drink no other Liquors whatever, nor eat any *Boil'd-Meats*; or *Fiſh*, *Herbs*, *Roots*, *Salletting*, or *Fruit*; nor any *Spoon-Diet*, as *Broth*, *Gruel*, *Milk*, or the like; but any ſort of *Roaſt-Meats* may be eaten, ſo they be freſh, and the drier they are roaſted the better.

7*th*. It does not purge, yet keeps the Body ſoluble, going off chiefly, and pleaſantly by Urine, paſſing in ſome freely, in others more ſlowly, yet makes no Alteration in any, as to the procuring Eaſe either ſooner or later, nor fills or cloys the Stomach or Bowels, to make them any ways uneaſy, for the more you drink of it, the more you may.

8*th*. If it ſhould happen to render the Body more Laxative than is ſaid, and ſo not go off ſo freely by Urine, (as I have known it in ſome, where there has been a mighty heap of crude Humours) the Effects will not be leſs, nor the Patient the worſe; for were not the Body more or leſs incumbred with ſuch Humours as are noxious to Nature, needful to be diſcharg'd, and too viſcid and groſs to be led away by Urine, no ſuch Operation would be; becauſe I have obſerv'd, that when the Quantity of thoſe crude Humours have been ſo carry'd off by it, its Operation by Stool has ceas'd, and it has afterwards only paſſed away by Urine.

9*th*. In ſome it occaſions alſo a gentle Perſpiration, in others, an agreeable Sweating, it varying, a little, in its Operation, according as is the Patients Conſtitution and way of living, yet in all

People

People it never fails having its due Effect, ſooner or later.

10*th.* It's remarkable, that it gives eaſe ſooneſt, when the Pain is greateſt, which ſufficiently ſhews its Energy and Excellency, that it ſhould appeaſe and ſubdue thoſe obſtinate rebellious Humours, when in the height of their raging Fermentation and Fury, when it is known that all other Evacuaters taken in the Fit, as they carry off a great deal of the *Serum* that ſhould dilute the ſharp Salts, and help to mitigate the Pain, exaſperate inſtead of eaſing it, and ſo much the more, as the Humours are more in Heat and Fluxion.

11*th.* It is a Medicine acceptable to be taken, not in the leaſt putting any force upon Nature; nor does it obtund or weaken the Appetite, but ſtrengthen it, and by facilitating the Digeſtions, rather makes you more Hungry; and for corroborating and fortifying the Tone of the Stomach, and defending and freeing that and the noble Parts from all Aſſaults of the *Gouty* Humours, nothing in Nature can go beyond it. Beſides what my Experience tells me of it, the following Virtues, (in the very Words) the whole Faculty of Phyſick aſcribe to the Ingredients that compound it, *viz. That they correct and ſweeten the Blood and Juices, ſtrengthen the Stomach, Nerves, and Brain, are friendly to Nature, Cordial, and Health-preſerving.*

12*th.* By that time you have drank it all, you will be well of that Fit, I having ſeldom known it otherwiſe in any, but if it ſhould happen, (as it may not be impoſſible in ſome Conſtitutions, where Nature is much debilitated, and the Matter of the Diſtemper copious, the Blood and Humours very acrid, and ſuperabundant, and the Fit been long) that ſlight, wandring Touches of Pain, juſt after the finiſhing the 12 Quarts of the Drink, ſhould be felt, as if the Humours were not altogether evacuated,

it will be requiſite that the like Quantity of it be once, or at moſt twice more repeated, which then cannot fail of making a thorough diſcharge, and bringing that Fit to a Period.

13*th*. When a Patient is ſo well recover'd of a Fit, as that the Weakneſs of his Joints is pretty well wore off, and he can walk a little, he muſt take care not to be too free, leſt the Humours falling down upon them again, as they are pendulous Parts, give him freſh Pain, a thing too common to thoſe who are very often, and have been very long afflicted and weaken'd with the *Gout*: Such as it ſo happens to, muſt have immediate recourſe again to the Drink, which will inſtantly relieve and ſecure them from Relapſe, which otherwiſe may prove worſe than the Fits they were recover'd of: For as it is the Humours that cauſe the Pain, and the Pain the Weakneſs, keep but off them, and you are ſecur'd from both, and the Joints conſequently, even in the oldeſt *Gouts*, cannot fail of getting Strength.

14*th*. After the Fit is totally off, there generally remains a Weakneſs, Stiffneſs, and it may be alſo a ſwelling on the Joints, which will ſometimes pit, and be each more or leſs, as the *Gouty* Humours have lain a longer or ſhorter time on them, therefore to comfort and ſtrengthen the debilitated Ligaments, *&c.* of the Joints, I recommend the *Liniment* hereafter preſcrib'd, which I have ſucceſsfully experienc'd, and is the beſt thing I know, and with which if they be bathed every Night and Morning with a warm Hand, without Fire, and a piece of ſoft brown Paper, or Linnen Rag applied over, will bring them much ſooner to their right Tone and Uſe, than they could poſſibly recover without it; for they that have undergone an Aſſault of the *Gout*, have oftentimes occaſion for the Uſe of ſome Remedy, that by its Vertue may

ſtrengthen the Joints and Nervous Parts, whoſe Tone and native Temperament are injured by the Diſeaſe: But I ſay, it is not to be uſed till the Patient is perfectly freed from the Fit, for otherwiſe all Externals are generally bad, and (whatever favourable Opinion any may entertain of them) have for the moſt part been found, firſt or laſt, to do more hurt than good.

15*th. Note*, The Directions hitherto given, relate only to regular Fits of the *Gout*, as they once, or more times in a Year return, and prove more or leſs painful, as the Humours are more or leſs ſharp, and do abound; but as there are many People, (taken Notice of in my *Attila*) who have ſuch *Gouty* Habits, as that the whole Subſtance of their Bodies, is as it were perverted to the Nouriſhment of the Diſeaſe, ſo as that they are almoſt continually afflicted with it, either in their Limbs, Joints, Fingers, or Toes, and ſometimes in ſeveral of 'em at once, which tho' it may give them but little Pain, yet as it occaſions a Lameneſs, Stiffneſs, Heavineſs, Tenderneſs, or Weakneſs of the Parts, making them almoſt, if not altogether uſeleſs, they are not to expect its Effects near ſo ſuddenly; for the Diſtemper in ſuch being Chronick and rooted, and ſo Ill-natur'd and untoward, as to afford but little Truce, perhaps only for the two or three hot Months, and in ſome ſcarcely that, they will be oblig'd to keep to the drinking 3, 4, or 5 Pints in a Day, of the Drink, more or leſs, with the ſame Reſtriction as to other Liquors and Food as aforeſaid, for a Month, two or three together, longer or ſhorter, according as is their Caſe or Conſtitution, till the whole Habit of the Body is changed, and the *Gouty* Diſpoſition extirpated; for as the Fault in ſuch *Gouts* is in the whole Habit, the Saline Acrimony of the whole muſt be taken away, or it is doing nothing; and as the Drink is of a ſoft friendly

friendly Nature, rectifies and ſtrengthens the Tone of the Blood, ſweetens that and the Juices, and inſpires them, as it were, with a new and better Ferment, and alſo by its penetrating into the inmoſt Receſſes of the Body, after a peculiar manner viſits the *Glands*, rectifies their *Craſis* and deprav'd Ferment, attenuates their Fæculent Juices, and caſts them off by Urine, a good Conſtitution muſt in time be thereby eſtabliſh'd, and the whole Body invigorated; and by the Uſe, as there ſhall be occaſion, of the *Liniment*, the Joints will be made more pliable, and brought to their right Strength and Uſe as before, and this much ſooner in Young or Middle-ag'd People, where the Diſtemper has not been long, than in the Old and Infirm, where it has been of many Years ſtanding, and is alſo complicated, as well as rooted.

16*th*. This Drink is only prepar'd by my ſelf, no Perſon beſides, in the World, (excepting my Wife) knowing its Compoſition, and is to be had only at my Houſe, as directed to at the end of the *Preface* of my *Attila*: And as it is a Medicine that will keep, it may be ſent to any part in or out of the Kingdom.

17*th*. The Price is 3 *s*. 6 *d*. a quart, ready Money, they paying for Bottles, Runlets, and Porteridge; and of thoſe that require my viſiting them, I expect Fees. Into the Country, I generally ſend it in Runlets, for ſafety and cheapneſs of Carriage, and is equally as well for the Medicine as in Bottles, as I have experienc'd, having ſent it ſo into many parts of *England*, *Ireland*, *Weſt-Indies*, &c. but thoſe that have it in Runlets muſt remember to bottle it off as ſoon as they draw any of it out, (if they intend to keep it long, as many do to be prepar'd againſt a Fit comes) becauſe the Air thereby getting into the Runlet, not only palls it, as it does moſt other Liquors, but will by degrees change and mother it; when if it be bottled off, in clean, dry Bottles, and well

well Cork'd, ſo as not to leak, and the Bottles either lain along, in a cool Place, with their Necks downwards, or turn'd Bottoms upward upon a Rack, it will keep for Years together; (and ſo it will in Runlets, if they are kept brim-full and well bung'd, as I ſend them, for then no Air can get in) but if the Bottles ſtand with the Corks upwards, tho' they are ever ſo well Cork'd, the Corks will in time ſhrink, and let in the Air, when as the Liquor lies againſt the Corks, they ſwell, and keep it out.

18*th.* You muſt remember likewiſe to ſhake the Bottles or Runlet always before you pour it out to drink it, and not to forget to follow the Uſe of it, according to theſe Directions, without your ſtrictly obſerving which, I will not be anſwerable for the Succeſs.

## The LINIMENT.

*TAke* Nerve *Ointment*, Indian *Oil of Earth*, *and the beſt* Palm *Oil*, *of each* 3 *Ounces*; *put them into an Earthen-Pipkin*, *and ſet them over a very gentle Fire to melt*; *when they are melted*, *put in of the ſofteſt and beſt Gum* Elemni, *and* Bdellium, *of each* 10 *Drams*; *keeping it ſtill over the ſame Heat till they are alſo melted*; *then ſtrain it* (*becauſe in the Gums there are many times bits of Flags and Droſs*) *and when it is ſtrain'd*, *add to it of Balm of* Gilead, 2 *Ounces and a half*; *of the beſt Balſam of* Peru, 1 *Ounce*; *Chymical Oil of* Juniper, *and rectified Oil of* Amber, *of each an Ounce and half*; *of the fineſt* Camphir *broken in bits*, *half an Ounce*; *ſtir them all together over a very gentle Heat*, *till they are well mixt*, *and the* Camphir *is diſſolved*, *and it is done*, and is to be uſed as already directed.

This is a valuable Medicine, if it be rightly prepar'd, and with the choiceſt Ingredients, if not, it may not be worth a Pin; and that none may be diſappointed in it, it may be had of me at the ſame rate they can make it themſelves, or get it made by others.

SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE

